TO TIP OR NOT TO TIP?
How much will you be forced to pay for how little? News Analysis page 15

HOW TO BUY THE BEST PRESENTS FOR YOUR FOR LESS THAN ELON £10,000 OF HI FI, VCRs AND MORE TO BE WON

See page 8 for token

TUESDAY 19 DECEMBER 1995

# Oflot chief faces new storm over free flights

Davis had official warning

Chief Political Correspondent

The position of Peter Davis as the National Lottery regulator appeared vir-tually untenable last night after it was revealed that he accepted free flights from a company involved in running the ottery despite an explicit warning by the Government not to do so.

The latest revelation came after a day in which Mr Davis fought to hold on to his £84,000-a-year post, and Tory MPs mounted an effort to defend him. But last night some MPs said the latest disclosures in a written Commons answer

by Virginia Bottomley could seal his fate, The National Heritage Secretary carefully sidestepped demands for his sacking by Opposition MPs when she faced questions in the Commons. It is not my view that a knee-jerk reaction is appropriate in these circumstances," she said. Labour MPs said she had left Mr Davis "swinging in the wind" but she lat-

disclosed to Alan Williams, the ght, that Mr Davis had gone on the separately from National Heritage.

The Oflot spokesman said Mr Da

tenable. Mrs Bottomley revealed that her Department's officials told the Director General not to accept any free flights or accommodation from GFECH, the US company supplying the equipment for the National Lottery organisers, Camelot, before he went to the United States.

"In August 1994, in discussing the Di-ector General's proposed US trip, ofricials of my Department advised that re Director General would need to ensure that all due propriety was observed and that the cost of flights and accommodation should be borne by Oflot and not their hosts," Mrs Bottomley said.

John Major took a further significant

step towards a firm commitment to hold-ing a referendum on the single curren-

cy yesterday as the Government faced another cliffhanger vote tonight on

But although it now looks inevitable

that Mr Major will promise before the

election that he would not enter a sin-

gle currency without a referendum, ministers have yet to resolve the crucial question of whether the Cabmet would

have to unite behind any decision to join

a currency union.

Mr Major made it clear in the Com-

former Foreign Secretary, went public for the first time in indicating his strong

Mr Davis admitted last Monday, under cross-examination by Mr Williams, at a meeting of the Public Accounts Committee, that he had taken five free flights across the United States in a privale jet owned by GTECH. Mrs Bottomley said ber Department had known about the flights for only a week before it was revealed at the select committee

But she went on to say in the written answer that Oflot was a nonministerial Department and therefore hospitality and travel arrangements taking into account the principles and rules set out in the Civil Service Management Code". She added that Offot was under no obligation to clear with, "or inform my department, about their detailed

A spokesman for Oflot denied Mr Davis had put his job in doubt by flouting National Heritage's instructions. He said it was up to Mr Davis whether he took National Heritage officials' about MP who first uncovered the free advice. "In effect they can't dictate that at a select committee hearing last what he does because Oflot is run

Opposition leaders said Mr Davis had ball no plans to meet Mrs Bottomley perbeen guilty of misjudgement, rather than corruption, but his position was unmanent Secretary. No meeting has been

Mr Williams said she had created a "rogue elephant" with Oflot, which was not directly answerable to her for its actions. She may announce her decision about Mr Davis's future today, after speculation that she was taking her time to ensure that she was not leaving herself open to legal challenge.

Mr Davis made it clear he would not

go voluntarily. After meeting Mrs Bottomley's senior officials yesterday to explain his conduct, Mr Davis said: "I see no reason to resign."

Leading article, page 16

The exchanges came as the government was threatened with a possible parliamentary defeat tonight over European fishery quotas. A Eurosceptic rebellion

has been fuelled by alarm over the de-

Mr Major brushed aside a claim in the

Commons yesterday by William Cash, the leading Eurosceptic MP, that he had

"sold the pass" by not challenging the "determination of Germany and capit-

ulating France" to go ahead with further

But the Prime Minister further

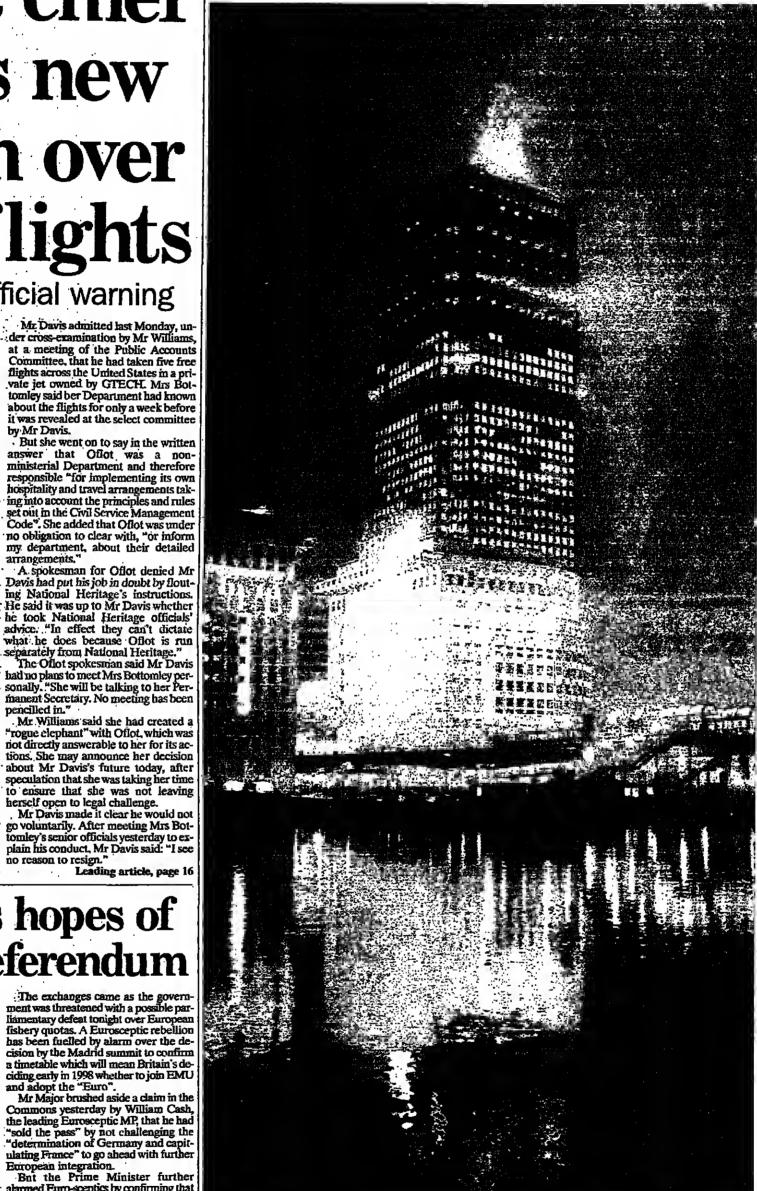
alarmed Euro-sceptics by confirming that Britain would not have to rejoin the Eu-

Several prominent Tory and Labour

and adopt the "Euro".

European integration.

### Britain's highest lights of Christmas



Docklands beacon: Britain's tailest building, at Canary Wharf in east London, flooded with colour yester-day for a preview of the light show created by the artists Peter Fink and Anne Bean. The tower will be lit up by the display every night from today until 16 January

Photograph: Peter Macdiamud

### support for a referendum. Why a good mood means bad decisions IN BRIEF

Pather killed his children A father faced with a mountain of debt killed himself and his four young children. Page 3

Mensa chief's sideline Mensa's top official ran his own business from the organisation's headquarters. Page 3

Rail line privatised The first rail line was privatised last night despite continuing legal confusion.

Today's weather Rain and sleet in many areas of the UK. Section Two, page 21 Health Editor

Mr Major made it clear in the mois yesterday that a referendum commitment was before ministers "for ropean Exchange Rate Mechanism for itwo years to qualify for monetary union.

PM fuels hopes of

Europe referendum

A good mood may be bad for people faced with problemsolving tasks that demand a high degree of logical thought and planning according to a study. Researchers say the brain may be too busy retrieving "feelgood" memories to en-

performance of individuals whose moods had been manipulated. To achieve a good mood, one group were shown a comedy programme; a neutral mood was triggered in another group by showing them a documentary; a bad mood was inhance the positive mood to foduced in a third group by cus fully on the task in hand. showing them a documentary Someone in a neutral mood on stress. The groups were then given two reasoning tasks. The can devote themself solely to neutral mood group performed problem solving, they argue.

well, but the positive and negof Psychology at Warwick University analysed the reasoning ative mood states of the other two groups affected their per-

In another test the groups were given a psychological test in which a block is moved around to achieve a given outcome. All three groups took the same time to plan the first move, but the good mood group then took twice as many moves as the others to attain the goal. Dr Mike Oaksford, a senior

lecturer in psychology, who will

today present the results of the

section

TWO

the British Psychological Society Conference in London, said: "The positive group put as much time into planning their

first move as the other groups

but their construction of a plan

was much less efficient." Dr Oaksford, who will receive the BPS Spearman Medal today for his work on human reasoning, said that the positive mood state may be affecting the brain's capacity for "working memory" - a space devoted to thinking, planning, and problem solving

study on the opening day of the - as good memories are being retrieved at the same time. "It is like a having a blackhoard to work your problems out on but your memory is writing on that blackboard at the same time." he said.



BUSINESS 18-22 COMMENT 16,17 CROSSWORD 26 GAZETTE 14 LAW REPORT 14 LEADING ARTICLES 16 LETTERS 16 NEWS 2-13 OBITUARIES 14 SHARES 21 SPORT 23-26 UNIT TRUSTS 22

ARTS 6-10 CHESS 22 CROSSWORD 22 FASHION 12.13 FEEDBACK 22 LIFE 4 LISTINGS 20,21 MEDIA 16,17 REVIEWS 10 TELEVISION & RADIO 23,24 WEATHER 21

# Red flag is raised over Russia again

PHIL REEVES and HELEN WOMACK

Despite the memory of 70 years of Soviet tyranny, Russians have ushered the Communist Party back into the centre of national politics and put renewed pressure on Boris Yeltsin to restrain Russia's headlong dash towards free market reforms.

The beleaguered Mr Yeltsin, who is still recovering from a heart attack, will today meet his Prime Minister, Viktor Cher-nomyrdin, to discuss the government's strategy amid growing speculation that it will include finally sacrificing his pro-Western Foreign Minister, Although the result reflect-

ed the anger of millions of Russians impoverished by the first stages of reform, it fell short of an overwhelming victory. Free marketeers won enough votes for the State Duma, or lower house, to ensure the Communists and their allies do not have total control. International observers said

the poll was fair, although there will be deep suspicion over claims by the Ministry of De-fence that most of the armed forces voted for the govern-ment-sponsored Our Home Is ussia party. With nearly half the votes

ounted, the Communist Party had 21.9 per cent. Second were ultra-nationalists of Vladimir Zhirinovsky, whose er than the landslide vote they received in 1993, but better than most predictions. Western markets, investors

and diplomats reacted calmly to the long-predicted Communist victory. Although the party leader, Gennady Zvuganov, delights the grass roots with Soviet-style rhetoric, on election day he promised to conserve the best achievements of the re-

The big surprise was the poor performance of the hotly-tipped nationalist Congress of

Russian Communities (CRC). But its leader, General Alexander Lebed — a possible presidential candidate next year proved popular in his power base, the arms-producing town of Tula, and will be able to claim

constituency MPs. Mr Chernomyrdin said last night that he was pleased with the performance of Our Home is Russia, which won an estimated 9.6 per cent, despite Russia's economic problems. He must also have been im



Zyuganov: Putting pressure on Yeltsin to curb reforms

mensely relieved that the elections went ahead peacefully the exception was Chechnya, where fighting continued to be

Apart from the pro-reform Yabloko party (8.4 per cent) few of the other 39 parties on offer will collect the minimum five 450-seat assembly, where half the seats are shared out among

The Communist vote came mainly from the undeveloped provinces, while Muscovites and other city dwellers who have started to feel the benefits of reform backed Our Home and Yahloko.

Last night the focus of attention was already shifting to the far more important presidential poll due next June. Further reports, page 10 Leading article, page 16

# Heartburn. One repeat you can avoid this Christmas. Pepcid AC controls the production of excess stomach acid for up to 9 hours. So even if you can't stomach any more repeals this Christmas at least your heartburn can be taken care of Ask your pharmacist about Pepcid AC.

LONG-LASTING ACID CONTROL

# First privatised rail line is agreed

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR and COLIN BROWN

The first rail line was privatised last night despite continuing legal confusion and a change in the rules governing the franchise process by the Sir George. Young, the Secretary of State for Transport

Final contracts were signed to hand over control of South West Trains to Stagecoach, Britain's largest bus company, even though a legal challenge, against another of the first three franchises, LTS, was due

Europe

Major

that it had been removed.

arises partly because of indica-

net decision to promise one.

- But Mr Major and his col-

leagues still have to resolve the

question of when to make such

a promise - and whether to stip-

ulate whether if a Tory govern-

ment decided in favour of EMU

the Cabinet would have to adopt collective responsibility.

that a future Tory prime minis-

ter should follow the example

of Harold Wilson in 1975 and

allow his Cabinet colleagues the

freedom to campaign according

to their personal beliefs in any

referendum. But the argument

pressed privately on Mr Major

by Mr Hurd, when he was For-

eign Secretary, was that he

should insist that, once having taken a decision to jnin EMU, the Cahinet would have to

The second course would

pose acute problems for Euro-

sceptic Cabinet opponents of EMU such as Michael Portillo

and Michael Howard who

would then face the dilemma of

having to support a cause they

did not believe in or leave the

CHRIS BLACKHURST and ROBERT BLOCK,

Paul Grecian, the former Or-

dtec director who had his con-

viction of supplying weapons to Iraq quashed last month by

the Court of Appeal, was re-manded in custody in South

Africa yesterday.

Mr Grecian, who had his conviction in Britain overturned

after the Court of Appeal heard evidence he had helped the

British government and had

been prevented by official gag-ging orders from presenting a fair defence, was arrested when

he arrived in South Africa on

Friday for a holiday. He was

picked up by Interpol executing

Johannesburg

campaign with one voice.

The verton soll Pa

pat rat

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par har

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Some ministers are arguing

FROM PAGE 1

to be heard today in the Court

Sir George Young showed his determination in hulldozing through privatisation when he announced in Parliament yesterday that he was changing the rules governing the allocation of franchises fullowing last week's Appeal Court decision that the process of drawing up new min-imum train timetables had been unlawful for five of the first seven lines. The case rested no the fact that the Government had said that the minimum "pas-senger service requirements",

the minimum level of service to tor should, "when considering be provided by private opera-tors, had to be "based on" the

existing service level. Yesterday, in his statement, Sir George said that the franchising director, Roger Salmon, would now be required to draw up contracts with private operators to ensure services were "hrnadly similar" in those operated immediately prior to franchising. There would be a "core service level" that would be protected.

Sir George's statement also said that the franchising direc-

the award of future franchises". take account of bidders commitments and plans to operate more trains than the minimum set in the PSR. It is thought that most of the hidders for the early franchises will in fact operate

emerged of Stagecoach's hid. While Labour accused the Secretary of State of "fiddling" the guidelines to meet the legal requirements, Sir George's statement appeared to have succeeded in buying off Tory

more trains than the minimum

but last night no details had yet

rebel against the Government.

Two nf the potential rebels last night welcomed the statement saying they felt it would require the franchising director to provide services which were either as good as or better than those offered at the moment.

"I welcome the minimum requirement to ensure that services at present BR rates are continued," said Tim Rathbone, one of the Tory MPs. He said be was prepared to accept could lead to better services. Sir

MPs whn were threatening to Keith Speed also welcomed the statement. The Tory MPs are planning to see Sir George today to press for more investment to be guaranteed and one, David Nicholson, MP for Tannton, will raise concerns

over service levels. Campaigners against rail privatisation said the new wording does nnthing to allay fears about potential rail cuts. Keith Bill of the Save Our Railways Campaign, which had brought the successful legal challenge, said: "Broadly similar does not seem to mean anything differsome lines they are putting forward 50 per cent reductions in the number of trains. That's not "broadly similar"."

Meanwhile, Thurrock council vesterday lost a challenge in the High Court seeking a judicial review on the London, Tilbury and Southend contract. which the Appeal Court found had been drawn up unlawfully but which was allowed through because campaigners had not tabled their legal objection in time. Thurrock is taking its case to appeal today.

### Firm paid £2.3m for benefits advice

More than £2.3m of taxpayers' money has been swalkowed up by the highly profitable City con-sultants Andersen Consulting for advice over introducing the troubled Jobseekers' Al-

mentary questions from John Hutton, the Labour MP for Barrow and Furness, reveal that the firm has collected £2,244,000 for its services to the Department of Social Security and another £88,000 from the Department for Education and Employ-

The firm's fees represent just over 1 per cent of the £200m benefit savings originally envisaged by the Government from the merging of unemployment benefit and income support and paying the new benefit for only six months instead of 12 before it becomes

The full effect of the planned savings has already been delayed because the Government was forced to postpone the introduction of the allowance from next April to next November - at a cost of at least £25m - because the necessary computer systems were

Earlier, the House of Lords forced the Government to rewrite part of the Jobseckers' Bill because it was too vague and gave ministers too wide powers of interpretation.

boat, The St. Georges, to Steven-Mr Hutton said the com-It became their newest and mercial arrangement with Andersen Consulting was the latest example of government departments employing consultants to help introduce new estoft fishing fleet. They have policy initiatives, a role tradiwhich allows them to fish close tionally performed by non-prof-

it making civil servants. He said: "The JSA will take millions of pounds worth of benefit payments away from unemployed people but has, at the same time, become the source of large profits for city firms, with millions being paid for consultants' advice.
"This confirms the hypocrisy

which lies at the heart of government welfare changes."

ruined her chocolate treat. She

told Watchdog she normally gave each of her two sons five Rolos and spoiled herself by eat-ing the last one. But the last time

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES Political Correspondent

Ministerial replies to parlia-

### IN BRIEF robbers escape

Two armed raiders escaped with more than £100,000 yesterday after rubbing security guards delivering money to cashpoint machines in the West End of London.

Thousands of Christmas shoppers were evacuated from the Bond Street area of Oxford Street as armed police searched for the men, both in their late twenties, who were seen entering the unstaffed National

Westminster Bank at midday. The street was sealed off for nearly two hours as a dozen police vehicles ringed the building and armed units searched the roof and rooms. Five men were later led away from the bank it is understood that they were found locked in n vault.

### School battle

The battle to save Hackney Downs boys' school in east London from closure was renewed in the Court of Appeal as parents and pupils challenged a High Court ruling last week that there was nothing unlawful or unreasonable in the decision of Gillian Shepbard, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, to close the school on the recommendation of a government-appoint-ed "hit squad". Inspectors had said it was failing to provide adequate education.

### Temazepam action

The Home Secretary, Michael Howard, introduced tough measures to curb abuse of temazepam, the most widely prescribed sleeping pill with about 7 million prescriptions a year. From 15 January 15 anyone caught in unlawful possession could face up to two years' imprisonment, an unlimited fine or both.

### Taxi rape

A hunt for a maroon and black, traditional London taxi cab was: launched by police seeking n; rapist who attacked a 23-yearold woman who was picked up in the Mail, close to Buckingham Palace in London. The taxi trade disclosed that there were nearly 2,000 traditional cabs on the city' streets which were used as private vehicles, some illegally touting for trade. Police said the rape victim could have got into a rogue vehicle.

### Teenager charged

Carl West, 19, was remanded in custody for three weeks when he appeared before Peterborough iagistrates charged with the attempted murder of Paul Brighton, 44, who was critically injured when he went to investigate after a can was thrown through a Mr Brighton, whose skull was crushed, was "improving" in Addenbrooke's Hospital, Camhridge. Four teenagers charged with public order offences after the incident were given bail to appear in court un 6 February.

### Murder hunt

Strathclyde Police launched a murder hunt after a body found on waste ground at a bus depot was identified as that of Mhairi Julyan, 16, who lived nearby and had been missing since going to see a pantomime nn Saturday. A post-mortem examination was being carried out.

### **Beatle burgled**

Security was being stepped up at the £2m hnuse in St John's Wood, north London, of the former Beatle Paul McCartney after it was raided by burglars while he visited his wife, Linda, at the Princess Grace Hospital where she was being treated for cancer.

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Uncertain future: A fisherman brings ashore the catch at Lowestoft, Suffolk yesterday

# Fishermen braced for the deepest of cuts

The fishermen of Lowestoft Quotas will hit family businesses, writes Danny Penman In Comwall they have stuck with to the prospect of another The quota cuts will hit the

Lowestoft Fish Producers' Orround of cuts in their industry. Nine vessels were in the Suffolk Colme Shipping Company, the port and another four were in largest fishing boat owner in the the North Sea steaming home. The fate of their industry will be

"The conclusion we've come to is that they think more of the fish than the fishermen," he added.

Colme Shipping runs 13 ships at 40 metres they are far too hig to be called boats - out nf Lowestoft. Another operator has six but they only land their catches in Holland.

can be landed by Europe's fish-ermen. The cuts will hit Low-The ships are multi-million pound affairs and come with the estoft hard, which specialises in plaice and sole, but for many it is a small relief from the promost effective fish locating and posals put forward by fisheries trawling equipment yet devised. scientists who called for a 47 per Colme Shipping replaced two cent reduction. vessels four years ago at a cost "It's still absolutely awful," said of £6m. While in port over Hugh Sims, chief executive of Christmas, the fishermen will be

decided on Thursday when Eu-

ropean fisheries ministers com-

plete their bartering and agree

nn next year's fishing quotas.

The ministers are expected in

agree to a 32 per cent cut in the amount of plaice and sole that

ernment seeking to extradite him on identical charges. In Britain, his lawyer, Kevin

Robinson, described the jnint

US move, as "outrageous." His conviction, Mr Robinson said,

had been overturned in this

country, and, he pointed out,

prosecutions against US executives involved in the same

case had been abandoned by the

A previous attempt by the US

to obtain Mr Grecian's extra-

dition from Britain is under-

stood in have failen foul of the

Government in this country

which refused th cooperate

British Customs are suspect-

"The US authorities are look-

ed of having alerted the South

US authorities.

with their request.

Africans to his arrival.

relaxing hut the support crews ganisation and spokesman for will be overhauling each ship's computers, global positioning system, sonar and radar.

The high-tech ships have massive overheads and must be worked hard to make a profit. Insurance alnne costs about £500,000 per ship. But the ships when working flat

out can earn £40,000 for a 12day trip. The captain will receive 10 per cent of the catch worth on average about £4,000 and an 18-year-old deck hand will earn about three per cent. nr £1,200. "Forget the fisherman with his roll-neck jumper. He will arrive at the docks with his Jaguar and copy of the Financial Times rolled up under his arm. He will start up his computer before the

profitability of the Lowestoft fleet. The running costs will remain the same but the revenue will be slashed by 32 per cent. For the fishermen of Lowestoft it is a boom and bust business. They have no holiday or sick pay and they live entirely by what they catch.

For the town it has been mostly a bust industry. The numbers employed have declined by nearly 1,800 in the last 15 years. The industry now supports only about 800 people in the

### In Lowestoft the fishermen have invested in big powerful ships. Their strategy is the op-posite to that employed by the Cornish fishermen based in

# Ordtec man remanded in S Africa

his long trial in Britain. Mr Hodes said this was why the case should be thrown ont of court as his client had already been tried and acquitted "on the

had shown his intregrity during

ceived assurances that he could travel the country without prob-

cause the evidence against Mr Grecian was in the US. The bench instead gave the prosecution three days to pre-

pare its case, and remanded Mr Grecian into custody until then without refusing or granting

### Nestlé keeps mum as last Rolo goes missing

Chocolate giant Nestlé came under fire last night – fur snatching the last Rolo.

er-value prey. Colme Shipping

sold their oldest and cheapest

son's based in Newlyn last year.

most expensive ship. The quota cuts may force a

change of strategy on the Low-

recently bought a 10m vessel

"We may soon have to start pur-

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food says it hopes

the quota cuts will hring a pe-

riod of stability. The industry has suffered lurches in the

quantities of fish that could be

landed from year to year, said

suing the Cornish strategy,"

tn the coast.

says Mr. Sims.

There used to be 11 of the caramel filled chocolates - famous for their "Do you love someone enough to give them your last Rolo?" commercials m a tube. But Nestlé has reduced the number to 10-withnut cutting the price.

The move was highlighted by the BBC1 consumer programme Watchdog, after a complaint from a viewer. Nestlé defended its action,

saying it had cut the packet size instead of raising the recommended retail price of 24p. Sue Brewer, a mother of two from Oundle, Northampton, complained that Nestlé had

she bought a pack, the last Rolo had gone. 'I'm feeling cheated because I didn't find anyone who loved me enough to give me some chocolate at a fair price, or to be honest enough to print 'one less, same price on the packet." A Nestlé spokeswoman said

nther firms had raised prices of similar brands and said Rolos were still good value. "The action we have taken has enabled us to maintain the price at a competitive level and we believe Rolo offer excellent value





and supplying arms," Interpol's director for South Africa, Dave Bruce, told journalists yesterday. "We arrested him at Jubaning for him for fraud, forgery nesburg International Airport

Paul Grecian: Arrested

cause a warrant was in circulation and an Interpol red nutice was issued in 176 countries." He added that the US warrant did not depend on the British court's decision and

that the South African govern-ment and Interpol would fight any attempt at bail pending his extradition to the US. But lawyers representing Mr Grecian moved to have the

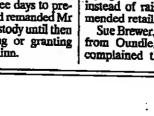
when he arrived nn Friday be-

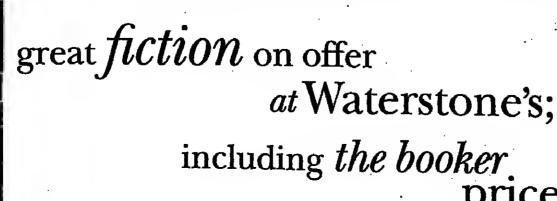
warrant for his detention thrown nut as well as seeking hail for their client. Lawrence Hodes, a barrister acting for him, told the court: There was no existing warrant for dentention vaild in the Re-

public of South Africa." He also rejected US claims that Mr Grecian was likely to flee if without refusing or granted bail, saying his client his bail application.

### very same charges". He said Mr Grecian had met South African officials in London before his trip and re-

The prosecution rejected the defence motions and requested a 14-day postponement be-







From Potter's Field, Patricia Cornwell. Little Brown; hardback. rrp £15.99 now only £12.99. The Ghost Road. Pat Barker. Viking; hardback. rrp £15.00 now only £11.99. Offers that speak volumes about Christmas at Waterstone's.

and free air-time.

will follow suit.

reaction to the success of Or-

ange, which has tripled the

number of its users in a year,

and it is likely that Cellnet, Vodafone's biggest competitor,

the customer, who can look for-

ward to cheaper bills, according

both to consumer groups and

Last week, Vodafone met its

service providers, who sell the

phones directly to the public, to

tell them of the four new tariffs

on its digital service which they

plan to begin next year. These

would incorporate per-second

force in April but Vodafone will

support any service providers

who want to bring it in as ear-

ly as 1 January. Its 2 million ana-

logue phone users will not be

charged customers for a mini-

mum of a minute for every call

and 30-second units after that.

It also levies a standing charge

that does not include any air-

time. The new tariffs are ex-

pected to knock between 10 and

15 per cent off Vodafone bills.

about 2.25 million users closely followed by Cellnet at 2.2 mil-

lion. Mercury One-2-One has

Vodafone at present has

Until now, Vodafone bas

The tariffs would come into

billing and free air-time.

eligible at the moment.

the networks themselves.

The main beneficiary will be

All a state year of the

vert reco

cersonal use come with a 50-day money-back guarantee black and white Christmas.

And the cow scots on our PC boxes? We . Amenda's largest direct PC manufacturer

### Price war looms as mobile phone tariffs cut **GLENDA COOPER** about 380,000 and Orange 350,000. A spokesman for A mobile phone price war will Vodafone confirmed that it was start in the New Year as Vodafone, the United Kingdom's

thinking of four new tariffs but refused to say whether it would market leader, prepares to incorporate per-second billing iaunch new cut-price tariffs, and air-time. He said the new including per-second billing tariffs would not replace the old ones but would exist alongside. The move is widely seen as a

Cellnet, Vodafone's nearest competitor, is likely to follow suit. A spokesman for Cellnet said it was "actively considering" the idea, but no decision was likely before Christmas.

Mercury changed to persecond billing in September. "We have no problems with it, it's good news for customers." said a Mercury spokesman.

They are going to save money." Linda Lennard, senior policy officer at the National Consumer Council, agreed. "We welcome anything that makes mobile phone charges more transparent." she said. Lisa Gernon, group director

of marketing for Orange, said it was "not surprising" that Vodafone was considering persecond billing. She said: "These tariffs show that they are taking us seriously. We predicted that this would happen within a year of our launch. It's taken longer but we're not surprised. I believe we offer a very sensible package which is better

She added that only Vodafone's digital customers would benefit. "It's not been recognised ... that they're not offering anything to the 2 million analogue users.

Orange is also planning to get involved in overseas work. It is at present in talks with E-Plus, at present in talks with E-Plus,

the German mobile phone network, hoping to come to an agreement which would allow Orange phones to operate in

The price war this Christmas has been sober in comparison to last year, which was a record year. An estimated 450,000 phone users were connected last December alone. Mercury, Cellnet and Vodafone have decided on offering £50 back if people sign up in November and December rather than going for more elaborate gimmicks.

Last year Mercury promised that anyone huying its One-2-One mobile telephones after 8 November would be entitled to unlimited free calls on Christmas Day. However, massive demand meant many callers were unable to get through. Mercury reported that at least 20 people had spent more than 12 hours on the telephone. One person spent 12 hours on the phone to Pakistan.

A spokesman from the Telecom Users' Association warned people to think carefully before buying a mobile phone as a gift - more than 20,000 mobile pbones will be bought in the Dixons group's stores in this week alone He said: 'A mobile phone is

for life, not just for Christmas. You may think it's great to buy granny a phone but remember you are buying a phone that may cost £300 for £50 or even a tenner. That's a substantial discount and you may find yourself in a contract for 12 months - or

### The mobile phone labyrinth: How to find the right tariff 178.24 12.77 42.5p 170 0800 to 1900 Mon to Fn 35p-15p £ 25 205 Personal World 0700 to 1900 Occasional Caller 42.5p £ 25 0800 to 1900 Mon to Sal 10p Frequent Caller £ 50 0800 to 2200 35p 15p Regular Caller Plus £ 25 Mon to Sat 25p Frequent Caller Plus £ 50 350 10p 0800 to 2200 £ 29.79 na\* £ 29.79 na\* 15p 5p 0700 to 1800 Mon to Fri 15p £ 29.79 na\* 0700 to 1800 £ 30 12.5p 0700 to 1900 25 (inc 60 Mon to Fri 10p talk 60 £ 30 mins of calls) 0700 to 1900 Mon to Fn 50 (inc 200 £ 30 630 18p 0700 to 1900 mins of calls)

# Man killed in row over dog

A man killed his neighbour with a crowbar in a row over a barking dog, a jury was told vesterday.

Nicholas Farnell, 32, lost his temper in an argument with Willy Pottage, 56, and his wife after they went out leaving their puppy barking in their gar-den, Winchester Crown Court was told.

Michael Sayers QC, for the prosecution, said the Pottages, of Elgar Walk, Waterlooville. Hampshire, had bought the dog a few weeks earlier. In the week or so before the

incident, when they were out.

the puppy used to bark a lot and this barking apparently upset the defendant.

On 6 May, the Pottages went shopping, again leaving the puppy in their garden. As they returned to Elgar Walk, Mr Parnell, a roofer, complained about the noise, the court was

Aithough Mr Pottage apologised and said that the dog would grow out of it, Farnell continued his complaint. He accused the couple of cruelty to the animal and threatened to

report them to the RSPCA.

garden. Whilst in the garden, tage swore at Farnell and told fractured. Farnell told police

him to go away. Farnell, who denies murder but admits a charge of manslaughter, went to his car and returned with a crowbar, saying: "You want some, do The jury was told that he hit

Mr Pottage on the head. As Mr Pottage fell, he banged his head on the road. When his aghast wife said

Look what you have done". Farnell replied "Do you want

Mr Pottage died in hospital four days later. His right jaw and who were called to the scenc: "We are neighbours and it was

"We had a huge argument. I was already uptight and I just flipped and hit him over the

He later said he had not intended to cause Mr Pottage any harm, saying he had felt intimi-dated by the Pottages, who were both about fift tall.

Mr Sayers said the defence would argue that Farnell had not intended really serious harm and put forward a case for diminished responsibility. The trial of

Two earlier schemes for reunion foundered in the Church of England's General Synod. largely as a result of Anglo-

### Methodists cool over unity Methodists were recognised as union with the Methodists. their equals. The Methodists

Not applicable. Mercury has nine-month contracts

ANDREW BROWN Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Methodist Church and the Church of England will today issue a bulletin on the latest in a series of discussions on unification which bave proceeded with fluctuating enthusiasm since 1955. But none of the participants hopes for much concrete progress from these talks about talks

Catholic fears that Anglican bisbons would be devalued if

emerged as a separate denomination from the Church of England gradually and almost by accident towards the end of the 18th century, though their founder, John Wesley, re-

mained an Anglican priest.
The organised Anglo-Catholic party in Synod has now heen weakened by the ordination of Anglican women priests. The huttle against women priests was led in Synod by the then Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard, wbo, as Bishop of Truro, had led the fight

However, the Methodist Church, which had been the more enthusiastic suitor, seems to have lost some of the passion once brought to the cause. In common with the Roman Catholies, both churches have

been losing members since the most serious unity discussions were under way: the Church of England, with 176,060 people on its electoral rolls, is now down to 70 per cent of its 1975 mem-

bership, and the Methodists. with 420,836 members, are at 73 per cent of the 1975 strength. But in both churches there is e enthusiasm

informal co-operation at local level, especially in the countryside. The growth in such informal co-operation is prohably the greatest success of the ccumenical movement, which is otherwise in retreat all around the world at the moment.

Hopes of reconciliation between the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church, which Anglican opponents of union with the Methodists would have preferred, have been blasted by the way in which the ordination of women exposed completely irreconcilable attitudes to authority between the c



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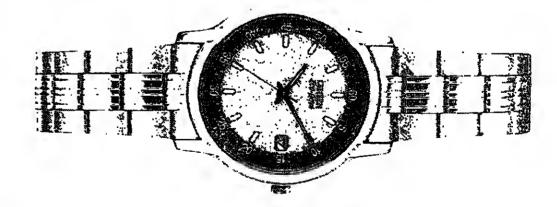
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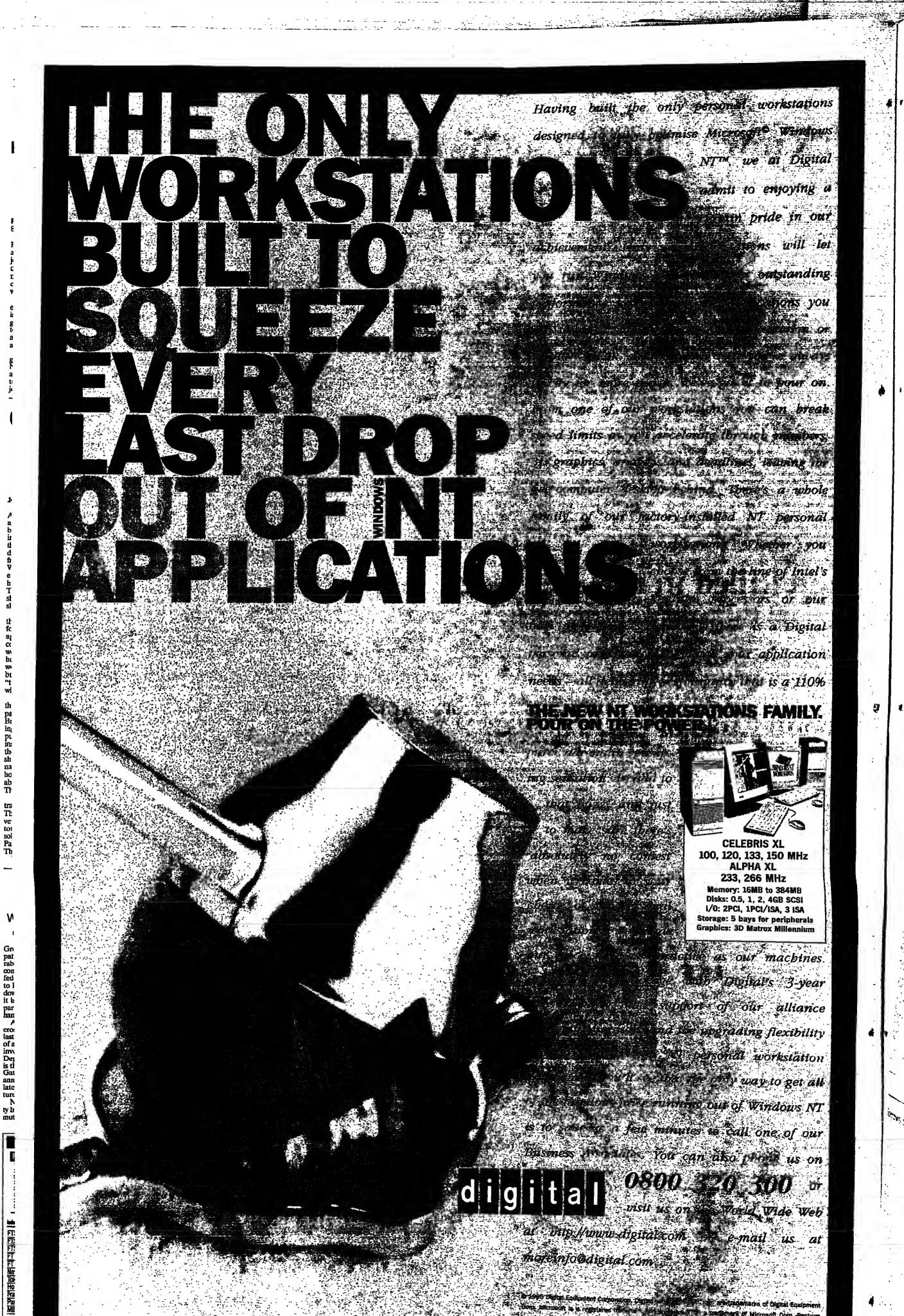
A photo electric cell behind the dial converts any light into electric power, so you'll never have to worry about changing the battery.

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Eco-Drive watches are priced from £89.50 to £195 and come with a three year guarantee. The model illustrated here is £110.

You might think such an amazing technological breakthrough by Citizen is a wind up. It's not.





Bur £10 force

Chinook inquiry test flar

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# **Burger King pays** £106,000 to staff forced to 'clock off'

The fast-food chain Burger King has paid out £106,000 in compensation to staff employed on controversial "zero-hours"

contracts.

The 900 employees, who received average back pay of £118 for the six months to September, had been made to stand around, unpaid, in the

burger restaurants until husiness picked up.

One Glasgow student said that he had received £1 for a five-hour stint, and another employee in Cardiff claimed she was paid nothing after she had

The Labour Party, together with the unions, had campaigned for Burger King to pay compensation after it was revealed that staff were being told to clock off for unpaid

In a letter to Ian McCartney. the Labour employment spokesman, the company in-sisted that such scheduling did not constitute company policy and that the practice was not practices." widespread. Mr McCartney has led the campaign against zero-hours contracts and says that a future Labour government would make them unlawful.

The letter to Mr McCartney, from Craig Bushey, managing director (Western Europe) of Burger King, said: "The back pay was calculated on the difference between the hours that employees were scheduled to work and those for which they received payment, irrespective of whether they volunteered to

Because it was not possible to identify those occasions where people stopped worked on a voluntary basis, we decided to compensate all staff who



lan McCartney: 'Scrooge

worked less hours than they had been scheduled," he wrote. Mr Bushey pointed out that

the number of employees who had received compensation was therefore larger than those who had been affected by the misuse of rostering"

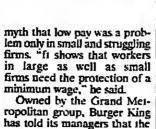
He expressed the hope that "the action taken by Burger King puts this issue to rest and demonstrates our commitment to equitable employment

The practice of offering zerohours contracts is increasingly widespread in the service sector, especially in hotels and restaurants. While it minimises labour costs for the employ er, possibly at the expense of the employee, there is no law to prevent any employer using

these arrangements.

Mr McCartney said the payout was a complete vindication of the party's campaign against such conditions of employment. He said that he had suspected that the practice was widespread because of the number of letters be had received.

John Monks, general secre-tary of the TUC, said that the Burger King case exposed the



John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB general union, said: "We are delighted that the company have opened their wallets to recompense for their had practice.

acceptable.

We will be watching like hawks to wipe out this practice from British workplaces.

Mr McCartney, welcoming the payout, said: "Scrooge has backed down just in time for



Christmas ritual: Mike Free, Mayor of Glastonbury, taking cuttings of the Holy Thorn at St John's yesterday to send to the Queen Photograph: Christmas ritual: Mike Free, Mayor of Glastonbury, taking cuttings of the Holy Thorn at St John's yesterday to send to the Queen Photograph: Christmas ritual:

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# Chinook crash inquiry told of test 'flame-out'

An RAF Chinook helicopter were blamed by RAF chiefs for suffered an engine "flame-out" and computer malfunctions during trials only weeks before a similar aircraft crashed killing Colonel Hodgkiss, who worked 29 people. a fatal-accident at the MoD's Boscombe Down inquiry was told yesterday.

Further trials of the troubled aircraft had been suspended ing testing, there had been an while the engine failure was in incident in which a Chinook vestigated, but the RAF continned flying Chinooks on operations, the inquiry at Pais-ley Sheriff's Court was told. The inquiry concerns a Chi-

nook which was en route from Northern Ireland to the Scottish Highlands when it crashed on the southern tip of the Mull of Kintyre on 2 June last year, killing everyone on board.
Those who died were 10

members of the RUC special branch, nine Army intelligence officers, six MI5 officers and the four-man RAF crew.

At yesterday's preliminary hearing, the allegations of the faults found in the trials on a Chinook Mark II helicopter were raised by Aidan O'Neill.
a lawyer representing the widow of the crash pilot, Fk Lt
Jonathan Tapper.

Fit Lt Tapper, 28, and his co-pilot. Fit Lt Richard Cook, 30, the hearing until 8 January.

the accident.
Mr O'Neill said he had test facility. The colonel had said that on 7 March last year, dur-Mark II developed some type

of "flame-out". Trials of the aircraft were suspended while the engine failure was investigated. There were also several malfunctions of the machine's computer. Mr O'Neill said he would be grate-ful if the MoD could provide details of the incidents.

Siggi Bennet, for the MoD, claimed it was not the place to make such allegations. Earlier, the inquiry was told that the Chinook helicopter pilot had been accused of "gross negli-gence" and that the widows of the crewmen had been refused funding from the MoD for

legal representation.
Around 50 witnesses are expected to give evidence to the inquiry, which is due to last four

### DAILY POEM

### Sorrows of the Moon

By Charles Baudelaire

How lazily to-night the moon dreams above the land: Like a rare beauty on her cushioned couch, Who before she slips to sleep allows her hand Caress her breast, with slight and sensuous touch.

On the satined back of soft drifts of foam Swooning, she reclines, as night flies by, Lifting her eves towards those shapes that roam Like flowers, the floating terraces of the sky.

When sometimes the languad one less fall On earth just one furtive tear, that's all. A plous poet, disdainful of sleep's prize,

Will cradle that pale tear within his hand With its reflecting irises like a diamond band To treasure in his heart, far from the sun's eyes.

In April 1855, 18 poems by Charles Bandelaire appeared in Revue des Deux Mondes. He called them Les Fleurs du Mal, Revue des Deux Mondes. He called them Les Fleurs du Mal, or the Flowers of Sickness, and they caused a sensation for their frank images. When they were published in an extended version, Bandelaire was prosecuted for obscenity by the French Courts; the ban on some prohibited poems not being lifted until May 1949. Ulick O'Connor, the Irish biographer, poet and playwright, has translated the 18 poems, this amongst them, for the 140th agriculture of the first publication. Poems of the for the 140th anniversary of the first publication. Poems of the Danned are published by the Monarchine/Wolfhound Press (68 Mountjoy Square, Duhlin 1) at £5.99.

# PC 'raped 15-year-old girl high on solvent'

A police officer raped a 15-yearold solvent addict in the back of whether to consent or not," he his patrol car after finding her 'insensible" in an alley, a court was told vesterday.

told that Constable Adam woman found the girl - ap-Grice-Roberts, 32, had been parently in another world"-and told to take the girl to hospital but had sex with her in the car said there was no dispute Gricein the police station garage at Roberts put her in his car where Blackpool, Lancashire.

the girl hut claimed she had persuaded him to do it. He has pleaded guilty to unlawful sexual intercourse but denies rape.

Guy Gozem, for the prosecution, said that the girl was "insensible" from inhaling gas, to which she was addicted. "She said. "The prosecution say this fact was obvious."

as told yesterday.

The rape is alleged to have happened on 18 April when a she carried on inhaling gas and The jury was told Grice- that he had taken her to Black-Roberts admits having sex with pool police station where a sergeant advised him to take her to hospital.

"He walked her back to his car in the police station garage and in the back of the car had sexual intercourse with her there and then. He then drove her to hospital."

The girl, who cannot be video that the officer had let her named, had been to her parents' carry on sniffing in the car, home in Blackpool for the Easter weekend and was due to return to a children's home in North Wales where she lived.

After Grice-Roberts dropped her at the hospital, she caught a train out of the resort. She was put off the service at Presion because she was seen inhaling gas. She ran away from a police officer and later that day made two phone calls to Childline.

The girl told a policewoman video interviews that Grice-Roberts had touched her indecently while she was in the alleyway, putting his hand down her pants and asking her if it felt good. Mr Gozem said the girl had said no. She said on the where he touched her again.

Mr Gozem said after they arrived at the police station they were sent away almost immediately by the sergeant. Grice-Roberts agreed that "there and then, almost immediately, he had sexual intercourse with her as she lay across the back seat of the car.

The girl claimed she was inhaling from a can as the officer had sex with her. Three empty cans were later found in the underground garage. The girl told police about her condition at the time: "I was really out of it."

Asked if she had told Grice-Roberts not to do it, she replied: "No, at the time I didn't even know what was going on. I was high. I knew he was having sex. five women watched on televibut I was high."

Mr Gozem said Grice-Roberts's account to police was that the girl had consented to intercourse and that in effect she had persuaded him to do it. He claimed she had talked about it and said she wanted it, and touched him on the way back to the car "to leave him in no doubt she wanted sex".

Mr Gozem said from the description of other witnesses "it must have been perfectly apparent this girl was in no position to consent to sex".

Two video-taped interviews with her would form her main evidence and she would then be cross-examined by videolink.

The jury of seven men and in the car," she said. sion screens set up in the court as the girl described in a taped interview what she claimed had

member much. I was face down. f got up and carried on sniffing.
He kept asking me why I did it."
She said the officer, who was
in uniform, had put his hand down her pants. "He asked me if it made me feel good," she said. "I said no. He said, 'Carthem what had happened. ry on finishing your can.' Then

carried on touching me." She elaimed that in the dimly lit underground car park at Blackpool police station he had then had intercourse with her. .

he took me back to the car. He

happened when Grice-Roberts

found her. She said: "I can't re-

"He did it. He had sex with me

She then described how Grice-Roberts dropped her off at the Victoria hospital. She left without being treated after asking to use the toilet.

She went home, packed a bag to return to the children's home and caught a train for Preston, but ran off when she saw a policeman waiting at the station. She then phoned the children's helpline ChildLine and told

The girl said she had bought six cans of butane gas that day and had already sniffed three of them. She said: "I was high. I knew I was having sex but I was



Grice-Roberts: Admits sex

Unlawful weapons: Headmaster's death and record level of stabbings prompt campaign to reduce violence

# Police issue amnesty for knives to be dumped

JASON BENNETTO

A nationwide knife amnesty will be launched by police tomorrow in the aftermath of school headmaster Philip Lawrence

A record number of people were killed in knifing incidents last year - more than five a week - providing evidence that a growing number of young men and teenagers carry "blades".

Police are concerned about the widespread availability of knives, which can be bought from DIY shops for as little as Hammerli UK, in Blackburn, purchase a Bowie knife with a Bowie or a throwing knife?" 12-inch blade.

anonymously in special hins England and Wales.

The concern about a growing highlighted by the stabhing to death of Mr Lawrence on 8 Deschool in Maida Vale, north-west London, has prompted the po-

lice to launch the knife amnesty. Last year 236 people - 165 of them men - were killed in Eugland and Wales by a "sharp instrument", compared to 183 the previous year. Home Office figures reveal. In Scotland, 58 victims died in knife attacks, an

increase of 14 from 1993. The diversity of knives on sale has never been greater. Magazines such as Combat & Militaria almost impossible to legislate

pages of adverts for weapons including throwing knives (£11.50), hunting knives (from £17), and doubled-edged commando knives (£19).

James Marchington, editor of the stabbing to death of the Combat & Militaria, which this month carries a review of 'Spanish Blades", said: "The knife-carrying culture needs to be attacked. There's an element who are prepared to carry knives and misuse them. While there are DIY and kitchen shops selling knives to anyone who wants them, passing laws is pretty useless.

one of the largest suppliers of military and hunting style 50p, or specialist magazines one of the largest suppliers of and dealers in military weapons for more than £1,000. There is knives, said that teenagers were no age restriction on huying fascinated by the weapons he knives—in theory a three-year-old could go into a shop and boys aren't interested in a He said he would never sell

From tomorrow until 20 Jan- anything to someone aged unuary, owners of knives will be der 17, although he admitted he able to surrender the weapons had no control over goods sold located in police stations that holds the knife that the laws throughout the 43 forces in should be dealing with, not the weapon," he said. At the London Trading Place,

knife culture in Britain was in central London, customers can choose from a selection of several hundred knives costing cember. His murder, outside his from about £10. Top-quality "survival knives" with eightinch blades, a serrated edge and a "skull-crushing" handle retails

> combat knives, an attendant replied: "It's like, why drive a Jaguar rather than a Mini? These knives are Jaguars." Alan Galer, manager of

Burgess & Galer, which supplies the West End theatre trade with knives, said it would be and Combat and Survival carry against the sale of knives capa-



Blade runner: Frank Kay with some of the speciality knives on sale at his shop in Blackburn, Lancashire

have many legitimate uses.
"What's the difference between a chef's knife and a dagger? Many murders are committed with them as well.

"There's always been a prob-lem with knives. We sell a lot of things that could be used as dan-Asked why people bought the gerous weapons but we are responsible. Sometimes we do

Police raids have uncovered a huge variety of weapons be- of two secondary schools, in ing held by teenagers. In London this has included bayonets.

hle of killing because they also flick knives, hunting knives, eraft knives and ceremonial daggers as well as kitchen knives. In south-east London this has resulted in a police carnpaign aimed at schoolchildren, including one called Kids

east London and in Liverpool,

"We are now tast ap-

Against Knives However, the impression that schools are awash with knives is wrong, according to some criminologists. John Pitts, Professor of Applied Social Sci-Criminology at Middlesex U get dodgy-looking people in here and we won't sell knives to ences at Brunel University, who recently completed a survey

said:

proaching a Los Angles-style gang situation."

However, he calculated that less than 5 per cent of the pupils in the London school carried knives, but none were reported in the Liverpool school. He said stabbings raised the fear of knife attacks, which in turn made the carrying of knives

Jock Young, Professor of Criminology at Middlesex University, added: "It is really common for people including young women to carry knives now for self-defence. There's a macho culture growing up which rePhotograph: Asadour Guzelian

knives are carried by only a minority of people." Two pubs are using metal detectors to scan customers for hidden knives because of fears of increased violence in public

volves around violence but

Bouncers are using handheld detectors during the weekends at the pubs in the city centre of Durham. The move follows an incident in which a doorman was wounded in a knife attack outside the Coach

A spokesman for the pub said: "We brought it in after we

started getting trouble. You read about stabbings and trou-

ble in the area, particularly in Newcastle. This seems to be getting worse so we wanted to put a stop to it." He said there had been not

trouble with knives since the detectors were introduced.

Paul Martin, manager of the other pub involved, the Fighting Cocks, said: "It seems to be working as we've only found a couple of pocket knives since we starting using the machines about three months ago. The customers all think it's a good

### Chemicals in food may lower fertility

NICHOLAS SCHOON **Environment Correspondent** 

Low levels of common industrial chemicals found in a variety of packaging and food products affect the testes and sperm counts of rats, new

research has shown. The two British scientists who co-authored a report on the research, published this month in the American journal Environmental Health Perspectives. were yesterday divided on its implications for human male fertility.

Professor John Sumpter, of Brunel University, in Middlesex, thought the findings could be extraordinarily significant in unravelling why human male sperm counts have fallen dramatically in recent decades in the Western world.

But Dr Richard Sharpe, of the Medical Research Council's Reproductive Biology Unit in Edinburgh, played down the link. He issued a statement saying that humans are likely to he exposed to the chemicals at "considerably lower" levels than those used in the study.

The rats were exposed to two man-made chemicals, known as phthalates, which are known to mimic the female sex hormone oestrogen and which are now ronment at low concentrations. The Edinburgh researchers found that baby male rats' testes were up to 13 per cent smaller and sperm counts up to 21 per cent lower as a result.

Phthalates are used to impart flexibility in plastics, including food wrappings, and have been found at concentrations above 10mg per kilogram in products as diverse as sandwiches, snacks, sausages, and butter. Gwynne Lyons, a consultant

to the World Wide Fund for Nature on artificial oestrogens, said the research should lead to urgent action"

There's not only a threat to human fertility," she said, " but to wild animal species as these substances huild up in the wider environment."

# Win £10,000 of Hi-Fi, VCRs and more

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XP-R600 Personal CD Player Second Prize NSX-999 Mini Hi-Fi System HS-RX848 Personal Stereo Tape Model HV-FX77 VCR

Third Prize LCX-500 Micro Hi-Fi System HS-RX848 Personal Stereo Tape Model HV-FX77 YCR

Fourth prize LCX-500 Micro Hi-Fi System HV-FX77 VCR Fifth Prize

LCX-500 Micro Hi-Fi System XP-R600 Personal CD Player Runners-up LCX-500 Micro Hi-Fi System

These great Aiwa prizes take home entertainment to new heights of enjoyment. Here is a brief description of each component prize. The Z-D9300M Midi Hi-Fi System incorporates a Dolby Pro Logic speaker system and

fe would like to give you some sound . 5-CD auto changer. It has five speakers with ample power output, 3-band tuner, graphic equaliser double auto-reverse cassette deck and belt-drive automatic turntable.

The compact size of the LCX-500 Micro Hi-Fi System belies the quality of its sound. This versatile system comprises 10W+10W amplifier, 3-band tuner, top-loading CD

player, cassette deck and speakers.
The HV-FX77 VCR is packed with features that make recording and playing so simple that even adults can do it. It has four heads for increased picture clarity, VideoPlus for ease of programming and a one-month, six

event timer programme.

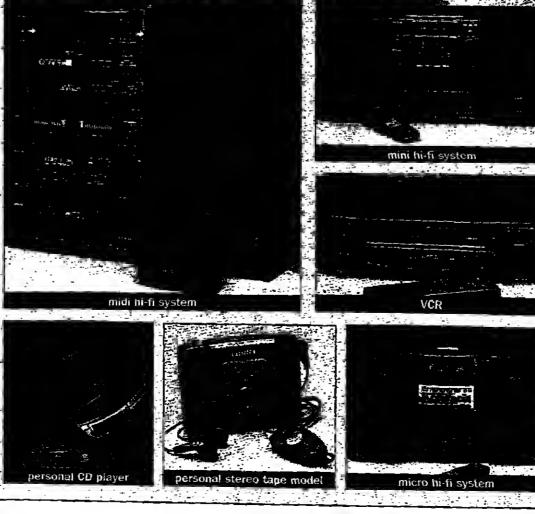
For music on the move, the lightweight
XP-R600 Personal CD Player offers great CD sound plus a digital synthesiser tuner with 30 nre-set bands.

The NSX-999 Mini HI-FI System is built around a powerful 150W+150W amplifier linked to a tuner, 3-CD auto changer CD player, and a double auto-reverse cassette deck. The speaker system features 3-way.

The HS-RX848 Personal Stereo Tape Model offers full remote control with a digital tuner and one-key joystick operation.

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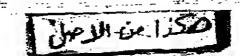
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aged in the post. The Editor's decision is 10. The companion is open to residents in the UK, the Republic of Ireland, the Channel Islands and the late of

Man. The prizes will be

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Häagen-Dazs New from Häagen-Dazs. Baileys Ice Cream.

Gonzalez

agrees to lead

party in early poll

# Yeltsin still hopes to cling to power

**PHIL REEVES** 

As he pored over voting figures sanatorium, Boris Yeltsin yesterday must have longed for a celebratory nip of vodka.

True, they were oo triumph, but Russia's parliamentary elections could have been much worse. Ill and unpopular he may be, but the President's chances of winning a second term are oot dead vet.

Although the Communists emerged as the most popular party with an estimated 22 per ceot of the party-based vote, their victory fell short of a fundamental shift in Russia's political terrain, despite the misery suffered by many millions on the

far still unfounded. At the 1993 elections to the

relatively powerless State Duma, the Communists had 13 per cent and the far-right Liberal Democratic Party had 22.9 per cent of the party-based

The assembly huffed and puffed, hut did little, as Mr Yeltsin ruled by decree. This time around the numbers have simply switched around.
The Kremlin clique, anxious

oot to be called to account over their shady privatisation deals, is likely to view the results as a sign that they may yet be able to use the ballot box to hang oo to power. They will be ath to economic reform.

Fears that Russians have defate of the nationalist General

fizzled out. The popular Afghan war hero may yet mount a strong presidential campaign, but he has not had the roar-

away start that many expected. The political hattleground oow switches to oext year's presidential race. Mr Yeltsin's rospects look hetter than hefore: the pro-government vote, for Our Home Is Russia, did not collapse (it stood at 9.6 per ceot last night). And be has several cards up his sleeve.

For instance, he will proba-hly reshuffle his Cabinet, kick-ing out his whipping-boy, the Foreign Minister, Andrei Kozyrev, who has woo a seat as an MP. The International Monetary Fund is expected sooo to grant another hig loan to Rus-

ly neglected areas - the army. schools, power supplies. And he will he helped by the economy. which is out of its nosedive.

However, time is short. The first round of the presideotial election is on 16 June, after which the two top candidates go to a run-off, unless one of them is an outright winner with more than 50 per ceot (an unlikely scenario). The biggest danger facing Mr Yeltsin is that he will fail to make the second round, because the pro-reform vote is split, not least because of competition from the liberal economist Grigory Yavlinsky, of Yabloko, which was running

If Mr Yeltsin (or, if he's too ill, possibly the Prime Minister, to raise his game considerably.

spaired of democracy altogether, and may soon elect another authoritarian leader, are so fizzled out. The popular Afghan some of Russia's most severe
Strendin to try to garner some viktor Chernomyrdin) squeezes Although an impressive speaktor, and faces a Communist candidate, he would have a construction of the still lacks sparkle.

Some of Russia's most severe
Some a chance of victory. Although well-organised, the Communists have yet to expand their nationwide hase significantly beyood their elderly core fol-

lowers. Mr Yeltsin, oo the oth-

er hand, would harvest the vote of everyone who fears the shadow of the Soviet past. For all its success, the Communist Party is also internally divided between unrecon-structed Marxist-Leninists and "oew" Communists who bear far more similarity to social democrats than to any of their flag-flourishing fore-fathers. And if Gennady Zyuganov, the party lesder, is their presidential candidate (yesterday he fudged questions about it), he will have

flambovant neo-fascist whose Liberal Democratic Party was running second last night, makes it to the second round against Mr Yeltsin, the President's chances would be better. still. Many who enjoy Mr Zhirioovsky's titiliating escapades and wild anti-Western rhetoric may be happy to vote for him in parliament, but will have second thoughts when it comes to handing him the presidency.

But there is a nightmare scenario. What if no pro-reform candidates get through to the fi-nal round, and Russians are offered a choice, say, between a hard-line Commonist candi-date and Mr Zhirinovsky? Time to dust off the history of the

Main parties' share of vote

Felipe Gonzalez agreed ves-terday to lead his Socialist par-ty into an early election next March, despite having said for months, indeed years, that he wanted to stand down. The Prime Minister bowed to the pressure of the party's federal executive to stand in his seventh election campaign, but the consensus was more resigned thao enthusiastic, in recognition that no better candidate could be Mr Gonzalez had been qui-

etly preparing the ground for his Foreign Minister, Javier Solana, to succeed him, but that plan was scuppered when Mr Solana was appointed secretary-general of Neto earlier this month. It of Nato earlier this month. It was then too late to find a convincing alternative, although only 10 days ago Mr Gonzalez wondered aloud if he had be-come, like Margaret Thatcher, more of a problem for his party than a solution.

Mr Gonzalez's name has become smeared with scandal, primarily because of a dirty war waged against Eta suspects in the 1980s. Two former ministers are up hefore the Supreme Court suspected of covert anti-terrorist actions in the early years of his rule. This bas undoubtedly tarnished Mr Gonzalez's electoral appeal, but party leaders reckoned that the Socialists' prospects would nosedive were he to cut and run so soon before an election.

The conservative opposition Popular Party is tipped to win in March, but possibly failing short of an overall majority. Its leader, Jose Maria Aznar, has failed to ignite public enthusiasm or to exploit fully the government's misfortunes.

Basking in the afterglow of a successful six-month EU presidency that ended at the weekend. Mr Gonzalez is likely to play the international card strongly. Critics say this is a ploy to divert attention from domestic woes, including a record

22.7 per cent unemployment.

His leadership has been undisputed since he became general secretary in 1974 when the party was still illegal. By 1979, his invincibility was such that when he stood down in protest at calling the party Marrist, the comrades dumped the Marxist tag rather than lose him. He fought elections io 1977 and 1979 and won in 1982.

1986, 1989 and 1993. Mr Solana left Madrid last night for his new job in Brussels, and was replaced by his oumber two, Carlos Westendorp, the Minister for European Relations and a career diplomat.

# Kremlin stands firm against the crimson tide

**HELEN WOMACK** 

Pacific coast late oo Sunday night but by the time it had washed across the country to lap against the walls of the Kremlin yesterday it had lost much of its power to terrify the occupant of the red-hrick

Preliminary results from the Far East, which is seven time zones away from the capital, showed the Communists and the ultra-nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky romping home in Sunday's parliamentary election. But the closer the count came to Moscow, the more reformers began to pick up votes, until it was clear President Boris Yeltsin would face a mixed assembly hardly more hostile to him than the outgo-

After two democratic parliamentary elections since the collapse of the Soviet Union, a pattern is beginning to emerge.

In both cases the ghubinka, or depths, in other words the seemingly codless Russian provinces, have voted in a conservative mood but balance has been restored by the big cities to the west, especially Moscow, which is an island of increasing prosperity in a sea of rural

In Russia the city limits more

or less mark the end of civilisation. As little as 100 miles The red tide rose oo Russia's from Moscow, many country people live in 19th-century conditions, taking their water from wells, cutting down trees for fire-wood. Inevitably they are envious of Muscovites and other city-dwellers who, while still

super-rich, cruising the streets of Moscow in their Western limousines, were going to vote to preserve their new lifestyles. But the nearly 20 per cent vote for the government party, Our Home is Russia, which topped the poll in the capital, suggested a far wider band of Muscovites already felt they bad a

in St Petersburg, Russia's traditional "window on the West". The former imperial capital has developed trade links with oeighbouring Finland and the shops there are well-stocked

for example, naval officers are

struggling, are starting to enjoy the fruits of the free market. Clearly the tiny minority of

stake in reforms. The liberal Yabloko grouping also did well, tying with the Communists for second place in Moscow. Two hundred miles to the north-east, Yabloko, beaded by the whizz-kid ecocomist Grigory Yavlinsky, looked as if it had woo in the historic city of Yaroslavl. It had also done well

with Nordic products. The big Communist vote came from the Far East where,



Pacific Fleet. Recently there were reports of naval conscripts actually dying of starvation

Support for the Communists also came from Siberia, including the mining region of Kemerovo, which once nearly brought down Mikhail Gor-

angry about the decline of the bachev with a strike over lack Liberal Democratic Party was of soap in the pit-head baths and which has now punished Mr Yeltsin for not paying wages on time. And it came from the "red belt", the traditionally conservative farming region near the

border with Ukraine. In all these areas, Mr Zhirinovsky's misleadingly named

close behind the Communists, confounding pundits who had judged it a spent force.

The big surprise of the election was how badly the nationalist Congress of Russian Communities fared. But its charismatic leader, General Alexander Lebed, was safe, be-

cause half the seats in the assembly are reserved for constituency MPs and his local power-base of Tula did not let

him down. International observers congratulated Russia on having held fair elections. And, indeed, they probably were except in one pocket - Chechnya - where voters were bribed with meat to go to the polls while separatists continued to resist the Russian military intervention. It came as little surprise when, in good old Soviet style, the single candidate for regional leader, Moscow's stooge, Doku Zavgayev, was declared to have won 90 per ceot of the vote.

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**Austria's** far right taken by surprise

There was oo disguising the sense of disbelief among sup-porters of far right populist Jörg Haider as the results of Sunday's election showed that, for the first time since he became leader of the Austrian Freedom Party in 1986, his support had declined, Adrian Bridge writes.

The losses were not very great - its 22 per cent showing vas just 0.5 per cent down on October 1994 - but for a man who has sought to surround himself with an air of invincihility, it was a serious setback. For the first time a man who has defined himself as a perpetual winner has been seen to lose," said Anton Pelinka, a professor of politics at Innsbruck University. "Maybe this is the beginning of the end."

Certainly that was the hope of Chancellor Franz Vranitzky, whose Social Democrats emerged the clear winners of the election after campaigning on an anti-Haider platform.

Mr Haider, 45, has oever before lost support in an election, but he has had setbacks. In 1991, he had to step down as governor of the province of Carinthia after saying Hitler's employment policies were "orderly". In 1994 he nusuccessfully spearheaded the "no" campaign in Austria's referendum on European Union membership.

Sunday's election, which was held three years before it was due, was called after the Social Democrats and the conservative People's Party fell ont over how to tackle Austria's growing budget deficit. However, both parties are expected to form a new coalition.

### IN BRIEF

**Budget stalemate lavs off workers** 

Washington - Some 260,000 US government workers were temporarily laid off again as President Bill Clinton and the Republican-led Congress failed to eod a budget impasse that has forced the second partial shutdown in a month.

Missing Russian airliner 'found'

Moscow—Search teams were virtually certain that wreckage found in the Russian Far East is that of a Tupolev airliner which disappeared 12 days ago with 97 people on board, officials said. Technicians were dropped at the site after the wreckage was spotted by helicopter, and were preparing the site for inspection by experts.

OJ and the 'right thing for justice'

New York - OJ Simpson delivered a videotaped greeting at a Los Angeles party for friends, attorneys and the jurors who acquitted him, telling them, "I hope to break bread with you soon," the New York Daily News reported. Simpson's chief defence lawyer, Johnnie Cochran, who gave the party, called jurors up on stage in a hotel ballroom and told them: You did the right thing for

Strikes cut France's growth rate

Paris — France's public sector strikes cost the economy around 30bn francs (£3.9bo) for just the first two weeks, according to the oational statistics office, INSEE, leading it to cut its economic growth forecast for the fourth quarter of the year to 0.1 per cent, from between 0.4 and 0.5 per cent. For 1995, INSEE now sees a growth rate of 2.6 per cent. growth rate of 2.6 per ceot, instead of its October forecast of 2.9 per cent and the 3.1 per cent it predicted in July. Reuter

Haiti front-runner ahead in poll

Port au Prince - Early indications from Haiti's presidential election were that the front-runner, René Préval of outgoing President Jean-Bertrand Aristide's Lavalas party, had won. Official results are oot due until next week.

Eritrea seizes Red Sea island

Sansa - Yemen said Eritrea had seized Greater Hanish island in the Red Sea, despite announcing it had accepted a ceasefire to halt fighting over the island and its sister, Lesser Hanish. Fightmg flared on Friday, with a Yemeni source saying nine soldiers—six Eritreans and three Yemenis—had been killed, while Eritrea's foreign ministry said its forces shot down a Yemeni

French vet fined for sacking HIV aide

Paris - In a landmark ruling bailed by Aids activists, Putrice Loeffler, a French veterinarian, has received a five-month suspended prison term and a 20,000 franc fine for firing his assistant, Frederic Bonhomme, who is HIV-positive.

Baby kept out of the picture

Wellington - A nine-day-old baby was refused entry when his mother tried to take him into an exhibition of crotic photographs by Robert Mapplethorpe at Wellington City Art

Biblical relics: Archaeologists optimistic as they start dig for more fragments of documents near 2,000-year-old ruin



Sands of time: Diggers remove debris from a cave where archaeologists hope to find more fragments of the Dead Sea scrolls

# Dead Sea scroll search reopens

PATRICK COCKBURN

In a deep ravine beside the ruins of the 2000-year-old settlement of Qumran. Israeli archaeologists yesterday started excavating three caves in the hope of finding more frag-ments of the Dead Sea scrolls. It is the first significant dig at the site since 1956 when the last of 11 caves containing ancient biblical and non-hiblical documents was discovered by bedouin who saw a bat fly into a crevice in a cliff face.

"I saw there were very many trails," says Hanan Eshel, an arebacologist from the Bar-Ilan university near Tel Aviv, who first realised the significance of the caves in 1993. He points to 1952 "bedouin sitting around a camp fire were told by an old narrow but distinct paths through the stony marl which makes up the sides of the ravine. "I thought it impossible that nobody had checked what they were, but I brought in a zoologist who said the trails were made by man and not by animals.

The pains lead to the entrances of a dozen caves, three of which are now being excavated. In preliminary digging by the Israeli Antiquities Department a 1st-century Roman coin

and some Roman pottery a trail in the desert it stays there shards were found. Magen for thousands of years". Dr Eshel says that he and his team will Broshi, formerly curator in charge of the Dead Sea scrolls dig for 14 days and then assess what they have discovered be-fore returning to the exeavation at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, who, together with Dr Eshel, is leading the dig. says that professional archaeoloin February gists had previously neglected the site as unpromising.

man that he had seen a par-

tridge entering a cave. When

they looked it contained 15,000

fragments of scrolls."
The bedouin find, now

known as Cave Four, is 200

yards from the present excava-

tion on the same narrow

plateau on which the Essenes

huilt their communal home

overlooking the Dead Sea, Dr.

Broshi says that the trails are sig-

were found by a hedouin shepherd boy named Mohammed He says, however, that aredh-Dhib in 1947, when he was chaeologists have a poor record looking for a straying animal. in finding caves at Qumran, the home of a Jewish sect, most probably the Essenes, who tran-He saw a hole in a cliff into which he threw a stone which made a strange sound. scribed or stored the scrolls be-When he climbed into the tween about 150 BC and 68 AD when their centre was destroyed by the Romans. He says that at first archaeologists believed that only caves in the steep rock wall which rises hehind Qum-ran contained scrolls, but in

cave the next day he found hig terracotta jars with lids containing scrolls wrapped in linen. Another 10 caves containing documents were found over the next nine years in what the American achaeologist W F Albright called "the greatest manuscript discovery of modern The scrolls in the first cave

The first Dead Sea scrolls

were carefully stored, but other fragments appear to have been hastily dumped in caves just before Qumran was destroyed by the Romans on their way to besiege Jerusalem. The members of the sect, although they had an elaborate water supply system and communal rooms at Qumran, largely lived nificant hecause "if you make in caves themselves.

## PLO to try top Nablus gunman

Jerusalem — Ahmed Tabouq, the gunman whose militia has ruled the Old City of Nablus for six months, is expected to stand trial in Jericho in the next three days, writes Patrick Cockburn. He was arrested after a 10-hour siege of his house and will face charges of resisting the au-thority of the self-rule administration, which took control of Nahlus from Israel last week, said Palestinian sources.

Mr Tabouq, 30, the leader of the so-called Farah Hawks, was cornered after Palestinian police, who are really combat troops, scaled off the medieval Old City at the weekend. At one moment he was seen on his roof top armed with an M16 assault

your weapons. We do not intend to harm you." Mr Tabouq is said to have fired hack and jumped on to another roof before disappearing into the tangle of old streets. Police cordoned off his house - he has a wife and three children – until he surrendered.

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Nablus might face resistance. He told the *Independent* in an interview in the Old City or casbah two weeks ago that "we consider ourselves soldiers of the Palestinian Authority".

A thin man with a gaunt face and a chain-smoker of cigarettes, Mr Tabouq was a leader of the Palestinian intifada in Nahus who was released from jail two years ago. After quarrelling with the local Fatah leader appointed by Yasser Arafat, the leader of the PLO. Arafat, the leader of the PLO, earlier this year, he set up the · Fatah Hawks as a vigilantes.

His reputation in Nablus was mixed. To Said Kana'an, direc-tor of the Palestinian Research and Studies, he was a kidnaprifle and accompanied by three per who extracted protection of his men holding pistols and money from local shopkeepers renades. by threats and knee-capped A Palestinian officer shout- ambody who resisted him. To ed: "Surrender yourself and others he was closer to Rohin Hood than Al Capone.

The move against Mr Tabouq came after local businessmen protested about him to Mr Arafat when he visited the city last Friday. His power depended on the vacuum as the Israelis prepared to leave and the Pales-Mr Tabong was taken to Jeri- timan Authority moved to take cho because his detention in control.

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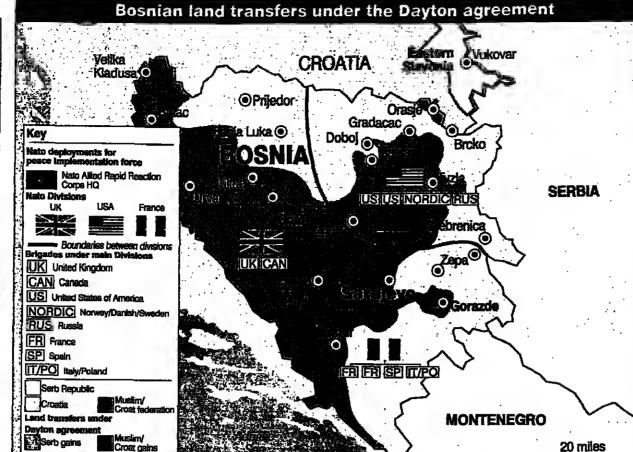
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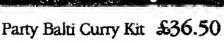


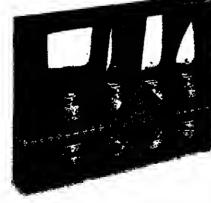
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# Nato warns factions to stand by peace deal

MARY DEJEVSKY

The winter-long pall of fog shrouding the city of Tuzla yes-terday lifted long enough for the long-awaited US deployment to begin in earnest, 48 hours befor Nato takes over command in Bosnia from the United Na-tions. By early evening, 16 car-go planes had landed at Tuzla air base, the latest carrying 120 paratroops from the 325th Airborne, marching off with Stars and Stripes flying: 700 more arc expected to arrive in the next couple of days to guard the base. The first planes seemed to be

carrying more camera crews and mulitary PR men than combat units. Still, the US army heaved a sigh of relief that, after five days of cancelled flights, the runway was visible to incoming pilots. The first to touch down laughed in disbelief at the huge press pack freezing in a light drizzle to record the historic moment. One of the first loads was a large consignment of bottled water and a group of British troops. But by evening there was no sign of the Russian contingent rumoured to be en route for Tuzia, where they will work under US command The US schedule, said

Brigadier-General Stan Cherrie of the 1st Armoured Division, was "a little bit behind - no problem". The transfer of authority from the UN to Nato would go ahead tomorrow at noon, he added. But he could give no starting date for the US deployment beyond the Tiizla air base: US troops have reached the Sava river border with Croatia, north of Tuzia, and are preparing to build a bridge for combat units, Gen Cherrie sat in oo a UN meeting yesterday with commanders from all three warring factions, and won permission for a final recoonaissance trip to examine the road south from Croatia.

All three parties, he said, were "very, very responsive" and "genuinely agreeable" - an asessment shared by Brigadier Richard Dannatt, British UN officer who will switch his blue beret for Nato green tomorrow. "I'm cau-niously optimistic this can work," he said in Gornji Vakuf, the town shattered in the Muslim-Croat war that will serve as head-quarters for the British Nato sector in western Bosnia.

The brigadier emphasised the Bosnian Serbs' "co-opera-

tive" attitude - the British sec-tor includes Banja Luka and the towns of Mrkonjie Grad and Sipovo, which are to revert to Serb control. "They realised the time had come to talk sensibly. to talk peace." None the less, the brigadier explained to commanders that Nato would not submit to the harassment im-

posed on the UN. The peace plan, he said, had been signed by each army's leaders and it was their job to comply with its provisions; if not, there was "no doubt whatsoever" that Nato would use the overwhelming force - including artillery and air power - at its disposal. "But I detect that it will

His greatest concern is the heavy snow forecast for tomorrow: the British deployment, which includes 3,000 British UN peace-keepers al-ready in place and 10,000 fresh troops, has cootinued un-scathed so far. But he warned:



Over there: LTC Frank Bohle, US commander, arriving in Sarajevo

"I think the weather probably is the higgest problem.

France will be responsible for the south-eastern sector of Bosnia, which includes the continuing and potential trouble spots of Sarajevo, the Muslim enclave of Gorazde, and the divided city of Mostar. It will also have a small logistics contingent in the Croatian port of Ploce.

France's principle of sending only volunteers on active duty abroad will be maintained. More than 50 French soldiers have been killed in Bosnia, and more than 600 wounded s the beginning of French involvement io 1991. By the time the redeployments are complete. France will have a total

of 7,500 men on the ground. There will also will be 1,200 Spanish troops, 2,100 Italians, and around 1,000 Portugueseunder French command. A Ukrainian group could also be assigned to the French zone.

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**Special** Reports Diary 1996

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PAUL SHIN

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Associated Press

Seoul - Dressed in the white

uniform of a common prison-er, the disgraced former Presi-

dent Roh Tae-woo went on

trial yesterday and repeated his claim that he only received

donations from husinessmen,

The 63-year-old former gen-eral looked tense as he softly an-

swered 200 questions from

ous and there could be some dif-

ficulties before the next harvest.

So I hope the Red Cross will

continue to send this food," said Chu Jong-choi, straight to the camera, with a barren landscape

Other video pictures showed the remains of a collapsed dam,

acres of destroyed paddy fields, and rice aid being distributed to

hungry, cold farmers. It was the

sort of footage that one might

expect to be made available by

any country suffering its worst

floods this century. Except that

In the world's most secretive

totalitarian regime, the gov-ernment does not usually beg

for international help, let alone

allow film footage to be taken

in some of its most impover-

ished areas. But Pyongyang's

appeal for international assistance in September, after the until the next rice harvest in the

this was North Korea.

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INDEPENDE Special Reports Diary

1996 FAX-U-BAC

selves on the warm asphalt.

prosecutors over nearly six

gency food and shelter. Dr

Piero Calvi Parisetti, the fed-

eration's head of delegation in

North Korea, has been in the

country since October, travelling to rural areas normally

closed to foreigners. "It is so ex-

tensive, the flood damage. We visited quite a number of places

and everywhere we went we saw

massive destruction," he said

yesterday in Peking. As well as

the stricken northern provinces,

the Red Cross found areas

south of Pyongyang left devas-tated by the receding waters.

people lost their homes, grain

stores and belongings in the August floods. Even before

that disaster, North Korea was

already suffering from years of

poor barvests. "Now it is clear

that aid will be needed for

It is estimated that 500,000

wooden bench and gazed straight at the three-judge panel seated on a raised podium. Asked if he received money

from 35 business groups, be said: "Yes, but I can't remember exactly where, when and from whom. When I privately met them, I thought this was the Under pressure from the

prosecution, however, Mr Roh admitted that he bad received \$32m (£21m) from the nation's

with prison number 1437 on his He said he destroyed all ac-chest, Mr Roh sat still on a counting records after the scan-rest were indicted without bedal became public in October

- a crime under Korean law. The presiding judge. Kim Young-il repeatedly ordered Mr Roh to speak up, but he did not comply. Even reporters seated several benches away could not hear clearly.

The next hearing is set for 15 January. Also standing trial are 14 aides and businessmen, charged with helping him set up the slush fund. The only other defendant under arrest for the

ng arrested.

Two Koreas: In Seoul, an ex-leader is accused of taking \$32m bribes; in the North, floods bring starvation

Prisoner 1437 is a former president

The industrialists represent a Who's Who of South Korean business circles, including Sam-Chairman Lee Kun-hee and Kim Woo-joong, head of the conglomerate

The businessmen denied they bribed Mr Roh, saying the moncy they gave him was meant to hedge against possible disadvantage in doing business with

the government. Hundreds of people queued

touts, and the going rate for their tickets was \$300.

Television networks gave live reports of Mr Roh's 25-minute trin from iail to the court. About 500 people surrounded the huge television screen at

oul Express Bus Terminal. Security was extremely tight. with 1,000 police standing guard inside and outside the coun-

Mr Roh, president from 1988 to 1993, faces charges of funnelling commissions and bribes convicted, he could be sen- posed. He has been on a hunger tenced to 10 years to life in

Before he was arrested on 15 November, Mr Roh claimed that collecting money from businesses was a long-standing practice of past governments and denied he took bribes.

Mr Roh's immediate predecessor. Chun Doo-hwan, is also in iail for masterminding a coup in1979. The prosecution has until Friday to indict him for military rebellion, which carries

overnight for the 80 seats available for the public. Many were amassed during his term. If that would be unlikely to be imstrike since his arrest on 3 December.

> The trial comes as Presiden Kim Young-sam is struggling to minimise the impact of scandals involving his two predecessors. He sacked his prime minister last Friday and appointed Lee Soo-sung, an academic with no ties to past governments.

The National Assembly yesterday gave its approval, setting government reorganisation.

### Keating accused of pact with the devil

ROBERT MILLIKEN

The Australian government came under fire from human ights activists and East Timor supporters vesterday after signing a treaty with Indonesia to strengthen defence ties.

The treaty, the first of its kind hetween the two neighbours. could raise the possibility of each coming to the other's aid in the event of an attack. But even before Paul Keating, the Prime Minister, and President Suharto of Indonesia shook hands at the treaty's signing in Jakarta, the deal was attacked in Australia.

The focus of uncase was Jakarta's human rights record in East Timor, where an estimated 100,000 people have died since Indonesia invaded the former Portuguese enlary 20 years ago. José Ramos Hona, a spokesman for East Timor's main independence movement, and a long-time eritic of Canberra's policy of strengthening its strategic links with Jakarta, said: "When you have a dictatorship and a democratic country with very different legal systems - one almost non-existent in Indonesia because the army is a law unto itself - to sign such a treaty is like a treaty between God and the devil."

The signing came within days of a visit to Indonesia by José Ayala Lasso, the UN Commissioner for Human Rights, who reported that there were "very grave" human rights violations in East Timor.

Mr Keating denied the treaty would compromise Australia in dealings with Indonesia over human rights, and has hailed the treaty, stitched together after 18 months of secret negotiations, as a triumph for Australia's campaign to consolidate its strategic role in the Asia-Pacific region. Australia and Indonesia will consult on security issues. Critics allege that Australia

has turned a blind eye on violations in a territory which is physically closer to Australia than to Jakarta. Australia is the only western country that recognises Indonesia's claim to sovereignty over East Timor. The UN recognises Portuguese



Helping hand: Villagers in Taziri, North Korea, fetch their grain ration supplied by the Red Cross

fall of 1996," said Dr Calvi Parisetti. The immediate threat is the winter, when temperatures in the north of the country can fall to minus 20C. It is not only the flood areas

visitor recently returned from North Korea confirmed that even in the cities, the situation is bleak. "There is no meat in the market, no fruit, and scarce vegetables; People eat rice and which are in need. A Chinese cold pickled vegetables at home.

They have to buy things with [ration] coupons. People in the north dress poorly. No fat people can be found on the streets." The problem for the Red Cross and the UN World Food

Programme has been the reluc-

tance of international donors to give humanitarian aid to North Korea. The Red Cross is targeting 130,000 severely affected people, but its appeal in September for \$4.4m (£2.9m) has so far raised only \$3m. The UN

appeal has fared even worse. The impact of the food shortages on the North Korean government remains unclear, but at the very least the crisis has forced Pyongyang to open its borders to prying Western eyes. | jurisdiction.

Photograph: Red Cross

# US-India relations sink to a new low

Relations between the newly Westernised India and the United States, which it has been courting since the demise of its old ally, the Soviet Union, have reached a new low.

The Indian home minister, SB Chavan, accused the US of having "evil designs" on Kashmir, where Indian security forces are trying to quell a five-year uprising by Muslim sepa-ratists. Then, last week, Washington leaked intelligence reports that claimed India was planning a secret atomic test in the deserts of Rajasthan.

An Indian foreign ministry spokesman denounced as ighly speculative" the allewhich first surfaced

last week in the New York Times: The fact that India responded with less than a resounding "no" to these charges bas concerned some Western diplomats: Citing intelligence experts, the paper claimed that US spy satellites had spotted unusually high levels of activity around India's nuclear test site

at Pokharan. These were regular army exercises taking place near the Pokharan plant," a foreign ministry spokesman in New Delhi said. US intelligence experts

quoted by the New York Times claimed that India was either preparing to test a second nuclear bomb - a first device was exploded in 1974 at the desert site - or was fine-tuning its

an edge in nuclear know-how.

bomb-making procedures.
In New Delhi, officials accused Washington of using the spy photos as a ploy to pressurise India into signing the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty by next autumn, to tie in with President Clinton's bid for reelection. India has refused to join the ban, which goes into effect in late 1996, insisting that it would leave the US, Russia, China, France and Britain with

Western diplomats in New Delhi are worried that a second test may spur Pakistan into speeding up its own secret nuclear weapons programme. A Pakistani foreign ministry spokesman said on Sunday that any nuclear test by India would "jeopardise peace and stability in the region".

No date for India's planned nuclear blast was mentioned by the Washington intelligence sources, who told the New York Times: "If the Indians") motive is to get scientific knowledge, it might be months or years before they do the test.
"If it's for political reasons, it could be this weekend."

# A bridge too far for commuters caught in the spell of the snake

In India, the snake is considered sacred, so when two cobras one a six-footer - slithered on to the Nizamuddin bridge the other day, nobody had the nerve to kill them.

Even without a pair of cobras lolling in the fast lane, Niza-muddin bridge is an awful place to he in the morning. The bridge connects Delhi with the ugly, concrete-grey satellite towns on the other side of the Yamuna river, and the morning rush is unbelievable. You find yourself straining in a mad race with buses, bullock carts, autorickshaws, motor-scooters, cars and even the odd camel. But the two cobras brought the traffic to a mesmeric halt.

A few of the braver scooterriders were able to zig-zag past the two snakes on the road, but most of the motorists didn't want to try. The pile-up on the bridge soon trailed back for more than a mile. Even the blasting of a thousand car horns didn't budge the cobras, which had come up from the damp mustard fields beside the river and were happily sunning them-

Some commuters wanted the snakes to be whacked to death. What a nuisance, they said. Here was India speeding to-wards modernity and vying for acceptability as a 21st-century economic power and yet its brainy young executives couldn't get to their hi-tech

It is one thing to decide to kill a cobra, another to do it. Those who recommended death for the serpents were shouted down by others, far more numerous. They argued that since the cobra was a mythological protector of Lord Shiva, it might not be a good idea to risk Shiva's

> time for work. A policeman was fetched by the crowd, but he thought it best to consult his superior who, in turn, thought it best to consult his superiors. This woeful lack of initiative led one diarist, from the Sunday Observer to recall the old Indian anecdote of the railway policeman who sent the following telegram to his chief: Tiger On Platform Eating Station Master Stop Please

wrath (he was, after all, the

Great Destroyer) just to be on

Advise Stop Urgent Stop." Many of the crowd on the Nizamuddin bridge also had memories of another strange cobra tale. The story has passed from fact into folklore, but the details, as I heard it, are as follows: Three years ago, on the road between Meerut and Delhi, a lorry driver who was carrying a load of spinach - the nature of his cargo matters to the chronicle, as you'll see - had

a cobra. The driver did not stoo. That evening, at the local police station, a crazed woman appeared to report the murder of her busband, killed by a hit-andrun lorry. "Name?" asked the weary officer.

When the woman replied that her husband had no name because he was a cobra, the police officer chased the old has from the station. You can probably guess what happened next: the perfectly robust policeman is found mysteriously dead in his bed the next morning. But the story doesn't quite end there.

voman's revenge reached Delhi, as it did within hours, the workers who were unloading the spinach deliveries swore they noticed white, snake-like markings on every leaf. The bazaar talk was that the cohra "wife" had put a curse on all the spinach going to Delhi. Soon, spinach hysteria swept Delhi. An entire girls' school fell ill from eating spinach. For three or four days after that, I could

When news of the cobra-

not find spinach in the market. So cobras, around Delhi, anyway, have acquired a rather vengeful reputation. Back on the Nizamuddin bridge, the traffic had become a congealed

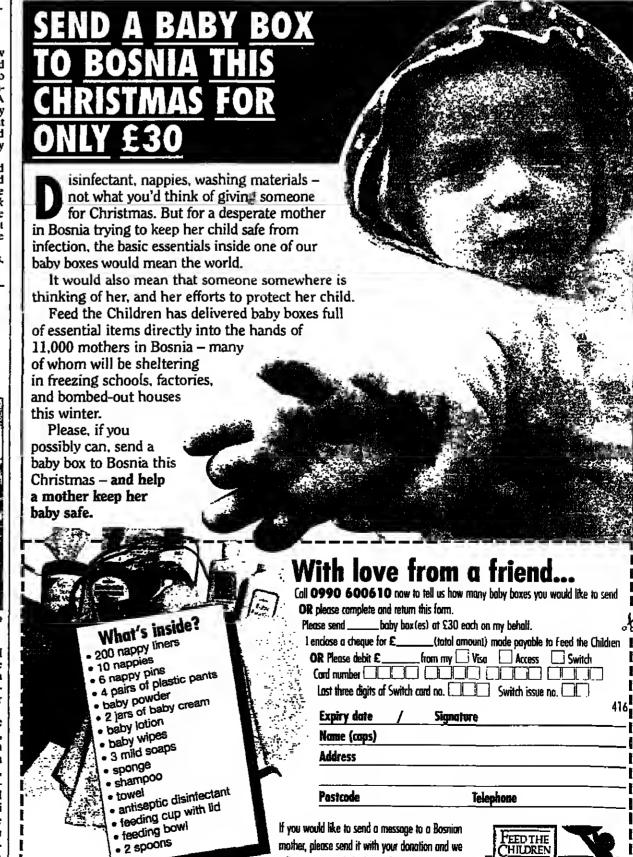


of Delhi's congestion

river of iron, with scooters and ricksbaws wedging into the tiniest open space, and when their drivers could move no further, they would bleat their horns incessantly.

Finally, a young man came along. Fluid as a fine batsman, he casually lifted the cobras on a long stick and flicked them into the air. The snakes flew, writhing and landed in a nearby field. Sometimes I'm asked why I like living in New Delhi better than London: being late for work because of cobras on the bridge is a much better excuse than wet leaves on a British

Tim McGirk



will put it in your baby box. Please send to: Feed

the Children, Dept 416, FREEPOST, Reading RG1 18R

To tip

# David Marshall

As a teenager in the British colony in the early 1920s, David Marshall was incredulous when the family's soothsayer predicted he would one day be "the most important man in Singapore". After Marshall won the election of April 1955 and became Singapore's first Chief Minister, the fortune-teller was quick to remind him of the prophecy. "But you won't be the most important man in Singapore for long," he warned.

Fourteen turbulent months later Marshall was forced to resign, dejected and an apparent failure. But, despite the violence and disorder, Marshall's govemment achieved solid victories in tackling the thorny problems of education, localisation of the public service, and citizenship. Marshall himself went on to be acknowledged as a Grand Old Man.

Born in Singapore in 1908, David Saul Mashal - the name was only anglicised to Marshall several years later -was the eldest son of orthodox Jewish parents, recent immigrants from Baghdad. The young David had his first taste nf wartime internment at the age of six, when his mother took the children back to Baghdad nn bnliday in 1914 and the Turks put the family under house arrest for three years.

Marshall's ambition to win the coveted Queen's Scholarship to study in Britain was dashed when overwork in his last year at school led to his physical collapse with tuberculosis. In 1925 he was sent to a Swiss sanatorium, where he put his time to good use by learning French, which stood him in good stead in later life.

Returning tn Singapore, Marshall took up a variety of dead-end jobs to finance his further education. He finally arrived in London in 1934 at the age of 26, qualified as a lawyer in record time and was back in Singapore in 1937, starting to build his professional reputation. When the Second World War broke out, he enrolled in the Volunteers and was taken prisoner at the fall of Singapore and international press to paint







failed ignominiously, forfeiting

his deposit. His formal career

as a politician petered out at the

1972 general election, when he was confined in hospital and could not comply with the rule to present his election papers in

pleasure in his growing family,

and the convivial Sunday gath-

erings at their seaside home at

Changi were the centre of po-

litical talk. But this was not

enough for Marshall, who be-

came more restless still after he

was forced to move from his

home to make room for the new

delighted when in May 1978, at

the age of 70, the PAP govern-ment invited him to become Sin-

gapore's ambassador in Paris.

and for the next 15 years he rep-

resented the republic's interests faithfully and with enthusiasm.

Returning to Singapore in 1993, at the age of 85, he was still not

Marshall was astonished and

international airport.

carceration was suffered in hrutal conditions of cold, starvation and maltreatment in the coal-mines of Hokkaido, from which he emerged barely alive.

Despite a lnng-standing dis-like of colonialism and racial discriminatinn, Marshall took no formal part in the initial flur-ry of politics in post-war Singapore but enjoyed the social whirl as a debonair bachelor, while meticulous preparatinn combined with dramatic courtroom oratory soon established him as Malaya's foremost criminal defence lawyer. But he was caught up in the political ferment leading up to the elec-tion of Singapore's first main-ly elected government. Despite being a tiro in politics, Marshall agreed to head the newly formed Labour Front, and in October 1954 he published an impassinned personal mani-festo, "I Believe", calling for immediate self-government.

A fiery election campaign left Marshali astonished to find himself Chief Minister in April 1955, heading a precarious minority government. Relations with the stiff local colonial establishment were stormy, Singapore suffered from a spate of violent strikes and riots among labour unions and Chinese schools, and within four months Marshall precipitated a consti-tutional crisis, leading the local

in February 1942. His second in- him as emotional and unpredictable. But, sporting a bush jacket even at the most ceremonial occasions and halding weekly meet-the-people ses-sions, he hrought warmth, sin-cerity and informality to the office of Chief Minister.

He also inspired grudging re-spect in the Colonial Office. Marshall staked his office on obtaining a promise of indepen-dence by April 1957, hut constitutional talks beld in Lon-don in April-May 1956 foun-dered when the British government insisted on keeping control of internal as well as external defence. Marshall remained inflexible, despite concessions from the British side and deep divisions within his own all-party delegation. Re-turning to Singapore, dejected and angry, he resigned as Chief Minister in June 1956, later withdrawing from the Labour Front and the Assembly itself.

Marshall's subsequent political career was unsuccessful and frequently incoherent. In 1957 he founded the Workers Party, but failed to win a seat in the 1959 general election, which swept Lee Kuan Yew's People's Action Party (PAP) to power. In July 1961 Marshall won a spectacular by-election as the dupe of the Communists, who sup-ported him against the PAP for their own ends, but, standing as an independent at the general election two years later, he

ready tn retire, despite failing health and eyesight, and resumed practice with one of the republic's leading law firms. Ironically, during his 15 years' absence, a new English-edu-cated, affluent, middle-class generation of Singaporeans had grown up, with whom Marshall was more in tune than with the Chinese-educated masses of his political prime. They welcomed his outspoken criticisms in television and newspaper interviews and public lectures. His age, his proven loyalty to Singapore and distinguished ambassadorial service gave him an authority which no other critics of government enjoyed. Marshall's great strength was

his firm belief in constitutional democracy, the rule of law and individual liberty. He readily admitted himself he was no politician, lacking guile and bored with party organisation. Nor did he appreciate the nature of Singapore society.

person. That same year Mar-shall was mortified when he was While he was an egalitarian a humanitarian full of compassuspended from the Bar for six sion, a champion of the undermonths on charges of leaking afdog, he did not understand or seek the company of ordinary working people and was much fidavits for publication in a politically sensitive case. Meanwhile, in 1961, Marshall had married Jean Gray, an more at ease with the intellec-Englishwoman, at that time a tualism of the elite. While he admired mndern Singapore's achievements, he pleaded for lecturer in Social Work at Singapore University and a former Red Cross social worker during more open political debate, a more independent-minded the Malayan Emergency, whn shared his interest in Singapore press, a more caring society and a kinder judicial system, free from emergency laws or capital punishment. politics and took an active part in charity work. Marshall took

With his shock of white hair, his bushy eyebrows and protruding eyes, to the end Mar-shall exuded vitality, humour and a zest for living. "I see life as a miracle of joy. I don't want to go," he declared in his last months, and he waged his final battle against cancer with characteristic determination.

C. Mary Turnbull

David Saul Mashal (David Marshall), lawyer, diplomat: born Singapore 12 March 1908; Chief Minister of Singapore 1955-56; married 1961 Jean Gray (one son, three daughters); died Singapore 12 December 1995.



### Vivian Blaine

A fine singer with an acerbic State Fair (1945) followed, with sense of humour rarely given Blaine as the midway performer sense of humour rarely given full reign by Hollywood, the red-headed Vivian Blaine starred in several musical films of the Forties including Rodgers and Hammerstein's State Fair before finding greatest fame when she made her Broadway debut as Adelaide, the "perennial fi-ancée" of the classic musical

Guys and Dolls. Born Vivian Stapleton in-Newark, New Jersey, in 1921, she started her career as a band singer with Art Kassel (and his "Kassels in the Air"). Given a contract by 20th Century-Fox in 1942, she played four minor roles before being launched as their new singing discovery in *Juderbugs* (1943), starring Laurel and Hardy. Publicised as "the Cherry Blonde", she was then given the romantic lead in two Techni-color musicals, Greenwich Village and Something for the Boys (both 1944), but they were second-league fare. The former had a mediocre score (though Blaine warbled the standard "Whispering" prettily), while Something for the Boys, from Cole Porter's Broadway musical, kept only Porter's titlesong and a fanciful plot strand involving a tooth filling which picked up radio broadcasts.

Her next film, Nob Hill (1945), entertainingly reworked one of the studio's favourite story-lines - a Barbary Coast saloon-owner falls for a society beanty and rumously tries to move out of his class. Blaine was effective as the faithful singer waiting in the wings, and in-troduced two popular Jimmy McHugh / Harold Adamson ballads, "I Don't Care Who Knows It" and "I Walked

In (With My Eyes Wide Open)".
The enormously successful who leaves the farm-boy Dick Haymes sadder but wiser. The score included three hig hits and Blaine introduced one of them, "That's For Me", though her studio, alas, had a policy which forbade its stars from making

recordings. Blaine's Doll Face (1945) was a lower-budget affair in hlackand-white, a sign that Fox were losing interest, Betty Grable was still their reigning musical star, the response to Blaine's first two major musicals had been disappointing, and she lacked the sweet ingenuousness of other rising contract stars such as Jeanne Crain and June Haver. Haver was top-billed in Three Little Girls in Blue (1946), the story (another studio favourite) strongly dramatic play about drug addiction, A Hatful of Rain. She returned to the municiple plant and maid in order to ensuare a millionaire. Plants in a strongly dramatic play about drug addiction, A Hatful of Rain. She returned to the municiple plants in a strongly dramatic play about drug addiction, A Hatful of Rain. She returned to the municiple play about drug addiction, A Hatful of Rain. lionaire. Blaine introduced a lovely Josep Myrow / Mack Gordon hallad, "Somewhere in the Night", in an exquisitely orchestrated and filmed

If I'm Lucky (1946), a pleasant but low-budget musical political satire co-starring Carmen Miranda (also about to leave the studio) and Perry Como, was Blaine's last Fox film, but four vears later she was to have the biggest triumph of her career when Guys and Dolls opened on Broadway. The show was immediately recognised as a masterwork, and Blaine's sympathetically droll performance as the adenoidal showgirl, engaged for 14 years to the gam-hler Nathan Detroit, won her the Donaldson Award for best début performance. She had three show-stopping numbers, the farmyard pastiche, "A Bushel and a Peck" (mitially the

wryly cynical "Take Back Your Mink", and best of all her description of the "psychosomat-ic" cold she has developed due to her unmarried status, "Adelaide's Lament".

After two years on Broadway Blaine came to London to recreate her role at the Coliseum, and while here appeared in the Royal Variety Show. She played Adelaide in the 1955 film version, but there was little chemistry between Blaine and a miscast Frank Sinatra (as Nathan). She had returned to Holly-

wood to appear with Esther Williams in Skirts Ahoy! (1952), but her career was now concentrated on the theatre and night-clubs. In 1956 she re-placed Shelley Winters in a (1958, score by Jule Styne, Betty Comden and Adolph Green), starred in Carl Reiner's comedy Enter Laughing (1963), and replaced Jane Russell (who in tarn had replaced Elaine Stritch) in the original production of Sondheim's Company in 1971, lending her own hrand of acerbity to "The Ladies Who Lunch".

During the last two decades she worked in television, including a continuing role in the soap-opera parody Mary Hartman, Mary Hanman, in clubs and in touring productions nf both plays and musicals, including Gypsy, Follies, The Glass Menagerie, Zorba, A Streetcar Named Desire and Hello Dolly.

Tom Vallance

Vivien Stapleton (Vivian Blaine). actress born Newark, New Jersey 21 November 1921; three times married; died New York 9 show's most popular song), the December 1995.

### **Eddie Clamp**

The name of Clamp was a by-word for ferocity in British football during the late 1950s. In his ruthless pomp as a ball-winner for Wolverhampton Wanderers, and, briefly, for coming Clamp's way. England, "Chopper Eddie" was accorded a lurid reputation akin to that enjoyed today by Vinnie Jones.

By 1955-56 he was a regular member of Cullis's all-action, hut undeniably skilful team - a hard man in a hard side - and

Indeed, had Eddie Clamp risen to prominence in the tabloid age, it is likely that he would have eclipsed the ostentatious Wimbledon bruiser in the notoriety stakes, for he was a more complete performer. Through renowned for his physical approach - it would be idly to deny his methods were crude at times - Clamp was no onedimensional clogger, and, with all due respect to the not untalented Jones, the taciturn Midlander had considerably more to offer in terms of hall

control and passing ability. Having won international honours as a schoolboy, Clamp turned professional with Wolves in 1952, then developed rapidly under the aegis of Molineux's martinet manager, Stan Cullis. He made his senior début as a 19-year-old wing-half, against ed at Old Trafford, as Wnlves were closing in on the First Di-

vision title in the spring of 1954. And although he did not play enough games to earn a

two years later his strength, stamina and all-round efficiency were an important factor in the club's championship triumph.

Clamp was rewarded by a full international call-up on the eve of the 1958 World Cup finals in Sweden, and he firmed an all-Wnives half-back line with Billy Wright and Bill Slater. He performed creditably in four consecutive games for his country, all of which were drawn, but widespread disappointment at England's generally sketchy showing in the game's premier tournament cost him his place - which went to the more stylish Ronnie Clayton of Blackburn Rovers - and Clamp was shunted permanently from the international stage at the age of

He continued to prosper at club level. though, helping Wnives to lift a second successive title in 1959 and missing out on a hat-trick when Burnley

Births.

Marriages

& Deaths

and Hannah. Funeral service at St Mary's Church, St Mary's Road, Wimbledon, Friday 22 December, 11am. Memorial occasion to be an-nounced later. Family flowers only, but donations if wished may be sent to Oxfam.

WANNELL: On t4 December 1995, at

pipped them by a single point in 1960. That term, however, there was heady consolation in the FA Cup, with Wolves de-feating Blackburn 3-0 at Wem-bley. Sadly, it was a scrappy encounter, labelled the "dustbin final" in the Midlands press, a criticism which rankled with Clamp for the rest of his life.

Having distinguished himself in the famous old gold and black, Clamp accepted a new challenge in September 1961, joining Arsenal in a £34,500 deal. He had been bought to instil steel into what was then a rather languid Gunners combination, but that very comhativeness was to prove his undoing. Six months after Clamp's arrival in London, his former Molineux skipper Billy Wright became Arsenal manager and took exception to Chooper Eddie's" aggressive style. The final straw was a brutal tackle on the gentlemanly Aston Villa full-back Charlie Aitken, perpetrated right under Wright's nose, and Clamp was

on his way out. Next stop was Stoke City, whom he joined for £14,000 in September 1962, and that season he assisted a Stanley-Matthews-inspired team of veterans to top the Second Di-



vision. Two years on, by now aged 30, he served a short stint with Third Division Peterborough United before entering non-league circles first with Worcester City and then with Lower Gornal

Clamp retired from regular football in 1969 to run a building and decorating business in Wednesfield, Staffordshire, but continued to turn out in charity matches for the Wolves Old
Stars. Opponents reported, ofStaffordshire 14 December 1995.

ten ruefully, that while he had lost his speed, he had retained that characteristic hite. Ivan Ponting

Harold Edwin Clamp, footballer: born Coalville, Leicestershire 14 September 1934; played for Wolverhampton Wanderers 1952-61, Arsenal 1961-62, Stoke City 1962-64, Peterborough United

### Battered woman syndrome relevant to defence Regina v Thornton: Court of

Appeal (Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Hidden and Mrs Justice Ebsworth); 13 December 1995

Medical evidence that a defendant suffered from "battered woman syndrome" which affected the defendant's personality was relevant to the jury's consideration of whether the defendant was provoked and suffered a sudden and temporary loss of self-control when she killed the deceased.

The Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) allowed an appeal by Sara Elizabeth Thornton, quashed her conviction of murder and ordered a retrial.

The appellant, who suffered from a personality disorder, was subjected to violence and abuse by her alcoholic husband. She killed her husband by stabbing him with a kitchen knife. At her trial for murder, the appellant did not contend she was provoked by her husband hat relied on the defence nf diminished responsibility on the basis that her abnormality of mind impaired her mental responsibility. The trial judge left the issue of provocation to the jury, directing them the husband's conduct must have caused in the appellant "a sudLAW REPORT

rather than because of a sud-

control" and would have tion unless the jury considcaused a reasonable person to ered she suffered or might have suffered a sudden and temporary loss of self-control

provocation

evidence to suggest that the appellant's personality disorder was relevant to provocation might have been due to the state at that time of medical knowledge which had since then progressed considerably.

Recent decisions made clear that mental and physical characteristics of a defendant should be attributed by the jury to the notional reasonable person. A judge should give the jury directions as to what, on the evidence, was capable of amounting to a relevant characteristic. If the trial judge had had the assistance of the recent decisions and of the further evidence, he would have given the jury directions as to the two characteristics now relied on. Doubt was east on the jury's verdict. The court could not be sure that the verdict was safe and satisfactory.

However the ouestion whether the appellant did lose or might have lost her self-control at the time of the killing was essentially a matter for a jury to decide. The public interest required that issue to be determined. A fresh jury would be able fairly to try the case solely on the evidence they heard. The conviction was quashed

### BIRTHS

BONNETT: To Jane and John, a daughter, Kate, sister for Lucy, 17 December, in Sydney.

WELLS: On 7 December, in Cape Town, to Sally (nee Carr) and Richard, a daughter, Caillin Elizabeth, a sister for Jennifer Sue.

KEAYS: Colonel Hastings de J., died peacefully at home on Sunday 17 December. Funeral service at St Peter's Church, Marksbury, on Friday 22 December, Ipm. Enquiries to L.J. Guyan and Son, 12 Chariton Road, Keynder Ott 70 863768. sham, 01179 863268.

READER-BARRIS: On to December 1995, peacefully in Salisbury, Henri-etta Marguerite Jean (née Loder), dearly loved wife of the late John, mother of Michael and Sarah, sisterin-law of Diana and a much-loved in-law of Diana and a much-loved grandmother. Funeral and burial at St Mary's Church, Slaugham, Sussex, on Thursday 21 December at 12 noon. Pamily flowers only. Donations to the Samaritans, Salisbury and District Branch, c/o LN. Newman Ltd, Griffin House, 55 Winchester Street, Salisbury SP1 IHL (01772 413136). VINTER: John Stanley Marcus, sud-

### Lectures

British Museum: George Hart, 'Oases of the Western Desert", t.15pm.

al, "Marking an Occasion: celebra-

dfather of Magdalena, Rebecca

### ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

# WANNELL: On 14 December 1995, at Woodhayes Nursing Home, Patricia Winifired (née Pat Archer), aged 77 years, of Topsham. Beloved wife of Jack and dear mother of Anne, will be sadly missed by all. Puneral service, Church of the Holy Cross, Station Road, Topsham, Exeter, Friday 22 December, 2 30pm, followed by private tremation. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Imperial Cancer Research Fund (ICRF), clo P. Turl, 16 Victoria Road, Topsham, Exeter EX3 OEU. reter EX3 OEU.

Amountements for Gazette BIRTHS, MAR-BIAGES & DEATHS should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, or telephoned to 6171-283 2011 (fm 0171-235 2016). Charges are \$6.50 a line (VAT catra).

### tion portraits from the 16th to the 20th centuries", 1.10pm.

Highgate Scientific and Literary As sociation, Lordon N6: Dr C.P. Hindley, "Health Services: expectation and

### Fund, attends a Carol Concert held by the Scot tash Events Committee of the Fund in Gingor Cathedral

### Forthcoming marriages Mr J. Donat

and Miss H. E. Owen The engagement is announced between Harriet, daughter of Mervyn Owen, and Jasper, son of Anna and John Donat.

Birthdays Sir Antony Buck QC, former MP, 67; Mr Ross Buckland, chief executive, Unigate, 53; Mr Timothy Eggar MP, Minister of State, Trade and Indus-try, 44; Dame Catherine Hall, former General Secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, 73; The Right Rev Ian Harland, Bishop of Carlisle, 63; Brigadier Lewis Harris, cartographer. 85; Sir Brian Hill, former chairnan, Higgs & Hill, 63; Mr Syd Little, comedian, 53: Mr Robert Ponsonby, former Controller of Music, BBC, 68; The Marquess of Queensberry, former professor of ceramics, Royal College of Art, 66; Sir David Rowe-Ham, former Lord Mayor of London, 60; Lord Weir, a Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland, 64; Mr Maurice White, rock

Anniversaries Births: Philip V, King of Spain, 1683; Sir William Edward Parry, Arctic explorer, 1790; John Ella, vi-olinist and writer, 1802; Sir Stanley Unwin, publisher, t884; Oliver Hazard Perry La Farge, author, 1901; Sir Ralph David Richardson, actor, 1902; Leonid Hylch Brezhnev, Soviet leader, 1906; Jean Genet, play-wright and essayist, 1910; Edith Piaf (Edith Giovanna Gassion), singer, 1915. Deaths: Anastasias I, Pope, 401; Vitus Jonassen Bering, navigator, 1741; Jean-Baptiste Vanloo, painter,

1745; Frederick Melchior, Baron von Grimm, statesman and wit, 1807; Benjamin Smith Barton, naturalist, 1815; Emily Bronte, novelist, 1848; Joseph Mallord William Turner, painter, 1851; Subhas Chandra Bose, olitician, 1945. On this day: Huguenots and Catholics clashed when the Battle of Dreux was fought 1562; during the American-British war of 1812, the Toronto parliament building was set alight, and Fort Ni-agara was taken by the British, 1813; the United States recognised the in-dependence of Hawaii, 1842; in the lew Hebrides, over 500 people were killed following a volcanic eruption, 1913; an air service between London and Moscow was begun, 1957; eight crew members were drowned from the Penlee lifeboat of Mousehole, Conwall, as were eight people of the Union Star coaster, 1981; Ted Hugh-es was appointed Poet Laureate, 1984. Today is the Feast Day of St. Anastasius I of Antioch, St Gregory of America. St Nemesius of Alexandria and St Timothy.

### Appointments

Mr Doug McAdam, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Kazakhstan Mr Andrew Green, to be Ambassados in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Mr John Doble, to be British High Commissioner to the Kingdom of Swaziland. Mr George Anthony Ensor, to be a

circuit judge on the Northern Circuit Mr Courad Dehn QC, elected Treasurer of Gray's Inn. Judge Esyr Lewis QC, elected Vice-Treasurer of Gray's Inn. Mr Anthony Glass QC, and Ma John Shorrock QC, to be Masters of

the Bench of the Inner Temple.

Mr Justice Ahmadi, Chief Justice of

India, to be an Honorary Master of the Bench of the Middle Temple.

### 19 December 1995

lose her self-control. The appellant was convicted and her appeal in 1991 dismissed. The Home Secretary referred the case to the Court of Appeal, where further medical evidence raised the appellant's personality disorder and the el-ement of "battered woman syndrome" as further characteristics relevant to the jury's consideration of provocation. Michael Mansfield QC and Edward Fitzgerald QC (B.M. Birnberg & Co) for the appellant, Brian Escou Cax OC

(CPS) for the Crown. Lord Taylor CJ, giving the court's judgment, said that in Rv Ahluwalia 96 Cr App R the Court of Appeal rejected the argument that the concept of provocation should accommodate the case of a woman, subjected over a period of abuse, who killed her abuser because nf a "slow burn" reaction to the cumulative maltreatment den and temporary loss of selfcontrol. That principle was reaffirmed. A defendant, even if suffering from "battered woman syndrome", could not

at the time of the killing. That was not to say that a battered woman syndrome had no relevance to the defence of provocation. It might form an important background to whatever triggered the actus reus. A jury might more readily find there was sudden loss of coutrol triggered by even a minor incident if the defendant had endured abuse over a period, on the "last straw" hasis. The syndrome might have affected the defendant's personality so as to constitute a significant characteristic relevant to the jury's consideration of

It was submitted that the further medical evidence of the appellant's personality disorder and the effect of the deceased's abuse over a period on her mental make-up were characteristics which bore on her reaction to the stress of events at the time of the killing and that the jury would have had to consider whether a reasonable woman with those characterisden and temporary loss of self- succeed in relying on provoca- the appellant did. tics might have lost control as

and a retrial ordered.

Ying Hui Tan, Barrister

# news analysis

# To tip or not to tip, what is the answer?

As a Private Member's Bill seeks to regulate service charges, Jack O'Sullivan looks at our attitude towards this ancient practice and how other countries compare

I for tipping. It makes most of us feel awkward: we are not sure quite when to do it or how much to give. So we cower behind suburban nets when the postman, oinmen and milkman come knocking for their Christmas bonuses. As for tipping porters, most of us would rather risk a collapsed vertebrae than give a fiver to a British Rail with a few coppers, we do not so much up as run away without the change.

The customs that surround tipping in restaurants are particularly upsetting to the British. Many establishments now assume that they will receive a gratuity. A service charge automatically added to the bill feels like a con, mentioned, if at all, only in the small print on the menu. Just as you dig deep for a bill that looks like it requires a small mortgage. you discover another hefty slice. supposedly optional, on top when the hill arrives, And it's never clear who benefits from our largesse; is a tip lining a restaurateur's pocket or saving the waiter from starvation?

Despite general distaste for tipping, only the brave and the mean dare to refuse. After all, financial incentive to Victorian cause terrible embarrassment: everyone has heard of the taxi drivers who sturm off, bawling obscenities: the ship's steward who returns an ungenerous offering with the words. "I think you need this more than I do. sir." How many people have never dared return to a hairdresser's salon out of guilt for being short of cash last time and

The British really do not care failing to leave the customary 10. European countries, where tainment, such as a floor show. per cent? And then there are the tales of nose-to-nose confrontations with New York waiters for whom a Brit's few hard-

earned dimes are rarely enough. The issue has always been messy for the British. Back in 1908, the Times published correspondence on the problems of visiting a friend's country seat and having to tip everyone from the housekeeper to the chauffeur. So costly had these incidental items become that one writer despaired, announcing that the time had "come for the man of small means to sell his only especially good service. In

waiting at table is considered a skilled profession that should be properly rewarded. Today. most of Britain's neighbours make service inclusive in the bill. In France, for example, a waiter's wage is not expected to depend on the whim of a customer; an extra 15 per cent ser-vice charge is automatically added to the price of food and drink. This sum is distributed to the staff, from the chet and the doorman to the hat-check staff. The concept of the tip survives. but a gratuity is meant to cover

short, the Continent has shaken

off the feudalism that still

bedevils the relationship in

Britain between those who

serve and those who are served.

Bradford, owner of Porter's

restaurant in Covent Gorden.

would like to copy. He wants

restaurants to charge prices

that are fully inclusive of ser-

vice, with notice that staff do

not expect anything in the way

of a tip or gratuity. He has introduced a Private Member's

Bill into the House of Lords to

that effect. The second reading

of the bill is due on 10 January.

allow exceptional service to be

rewarded, at the customer's dis-

cretion. But it would outlaw

cover charges, unless the restau-

Inland Revenue.

rant provided specific enter- in 1996.

This measure would still

This is the example that Lord

In France waiters' wages do not depend on the whim of a customer

guns and forget all about grouse and pheasants, and to cultivate golf as a casual recreation".

Part of British discomfort with tipping springs from its origins in a master-servant relationship, rather than as a transaction between equals. The origins of the word are uncertain. It is said to stand for "To Insure Prompt", a phrase coined as a those deprived of their tip can stagecoach drivers who delivered letters. But the term is also traced by the Oxford English Dictionary to the early seventeenth century, when it meant "the giving of a gratuity to an inferior". The survival of tipping in Britain is, perhaps, a mark of how we still regard waiters as a subspecies, to be treated pourly, as if from below stairs.

The same is not true in other

Restaurants would also be required to fill in credit and slips in full when presenting them for signature. At the moment, some provide billing slips with a space left for a tip. even when the menu states that a service charge has aiready been included in the price. This means that some diners are feoled into paying a tip twice. which can, in theory, and a

total of 30 per cent to the bill. The Consumers' Association supports Lord Bradford's Bill because it makes life simpler for consumers, Some restaurateurs are not so sure: the change might increase their costs. As It stands, service charges are not generally included in the total price, so owners do not have to pay VAT or national insurance contri-

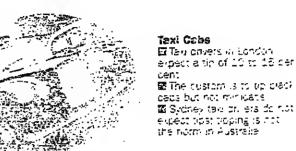
butions on tips.
Those involved in waiting are not dancing on their tables with joy at the proposal. Nothing in the Bill requires that the service charge goes to the staff. So catering stati might not be any better off, Currently, fewer than half of all restaurant workers get

to keep tips given by customers. In any case, the chances of legislation reaching the statute book are slim. Last year Michael Fabricant. Conservative MF for mid-Staffordshire. tabled a similar measure, which died for tack of government support. Ministers have in the past ruled out a change in the law, preferring to let the catering industry regulate itself. So the hot tip is that the British diner will still be living with confusion and embarrassment



Restaurents

置Normal practice is to trp the waiter 10 set cent to 15 per cent of the total bill. 麗 If a service charge is included on the on. is rare for a customer to up twice Fail to up a woner in New York and he will pursue you an to the street and ask you to



图Stylists expect altiplof about 10 per cent and a jun or might beig len bill or bill ☑ It is not inustamen, to un the ship stylist or manager of the premises ☑ French seions go not expect their austomers to bo

Station and airport porters Raiwa: stations and airports provide troveys for passengers

luggage MA poner service provided by speciarised companies will set you back by about £5

E Tokyo airport has no porters but at Frankfur, airport the porters expect a up of about 10M per item.



Hote! porters E Porters might receive a £1 tip for carrying heavy bags A livered doorman at a top London.

M In Singapore upping is strictly prohibited; bags are always carried free



hotel can earr as much £75 a week in



### Xmas tipping

It is customery to be the milliman during the festive season. Mill men ulli often send each household a greetings card and receive tips ranging from £1 to £5.

The dustman Schotted tipping is fading fast since local councils have prohibited the activity. Each arew of gustmen might expect a tip of £5 to £10 per nousehold and gifts of lurury food are also

The postman Tipping the postman is not as common as tipping the millionan or the pustment A denation of £5 would be

Paper boy or girl Alyoung boy or girl who deliners papers pail, all year round might expect to make as much as £150 in tips over the Christmas season.

### Ten ways to avoid giving a tip

1 Do a runner. This is, however, a heartless strategy, since waiters are often expected to pay the bill for absentee customers.

2 Emigrate to China or Japan; where tipping is not part of 3 At the hairdressers, fumble while searching for money until the stylist has moved on to the next client and

cannot embarrass you. 4 Start an intense altercation at the table with your partner when it is time to pay the bill. No one would dare

5 When staying at a hotel, always eat in the restaurant and ask for the meal to be added to the room hill, to be paid at the end of your stay.

6 Hide behind the curtain whenever you hear bins or gold tops rattling the week before and after Christmas. 7 Pretend to be foreign and stupid.

8 Dine exclusively in gentlemen's clubs, where tipping is strictly taboo on the grounds that staff are to be treated more as domestic retainers than as restaurant

9 Provoke a row with whoever is providing the service: accuse the driver of taking the long route, burst into tears because your newly trimmed fringe is too short, or complain that there was no sign of a cherry in your Singapore Sling. 10 Tell minicab and taxi drivers that you work for the

There is a tradition of opping all staff on board a to wait until the day before disembarring.

Sir Christopher Hogg, recently installed chairman of the National Theatre, is the new chairmandesignate of the international food and drinks company Allied Domecq. Which would be hunky dory were it not for the fact that Allied Domecq is chief sponsor of the National's rival. the Royal Shakespeare Company. giving it a cool 43.2m.

Both theatre companies loyally say they see "no problems at all" in the fact that Sir Christopher, a former businessman of the year, will have to juggle two hats with a dexterity that would grace either's stage. Allied Domecq advises the RSC on marketing, giving its best counsel on



how the company should present itself as the country's foremost theatrical company. This will in no way interfere with Sir Christopher's job as chairman of the National Theatre, where he will thair board meetings on how the National should market itself as the country's foremost theatrical

Namer should there be any conflict on funding. Sir Christopher, as chairman of Albed Domeeq, will no doubt tail his board that there could be no arts flagship more worthy of support than the Royal Shalespeare Company, Sir Christopher, as charman of the National Theatre



board, will be telling likely business sponsors - including, presumably. Allied Domecq - that there can be no arts flagship more worthy of support than the National Theatre.

The campaign spearheaded by Lord

Hanson to bring back the traditional

stiff upper-covered dark blue British passport has foiled to secure the support of Douglas Hurd. The name of the man who has served as both foreign and home secretary would give a huge boost to Lord Hanson's wish to replace the limp hurgandy Euro passport. But Mr Hurd is remaining silent. A spokeswoman in his office said he had nothing to say about the matter and would not verify any speculation about his views. I suspect Mr Hurd is a fan of the red Euro passport. And I also suspect I know why. As the relevant cabinet minister at the time the Euro passports were introduced in 1988. Mr Hurd received the very first Euro passport, with the memorable serial number 000000001. Mrs Hurd's is 000000002. Few campaigns can be worth sacrificing the look of admiration on the passport control officer's face.

In the police force they are chuckling over a rare nugget from the Home Office minister David Maclean. According to Police Review. Mr Maclean was asked recently by an MP which forces had dispensed with underwater search and recovery units. Maclean replied. "I understand that Cheshire, North Wales, Merseyside

and Greater Manchester have amalgamated their resources to form a single regional unit... Indeed they did: 18 years ago.

There would seem to be an element of contradiction in talking of moral conscience and an advertising department, but a sporadic fit of morality has infected the ads department at the Sunday Times. The unlikely victim is Opera North, the

Leeds-based opera company. The newspaper withdrew one of the company's adverts just before going to press, saying that the wording "was unsuitable for a family newspaper".

Opera North is still reeling from the shock. The advert was part of a campaign to promote a season dubbed "the Most Romantic Season in Years", explains a spokeswoman. The first one showed a couple in evening dress leaving the opera. accompanied by the caption: 'Darling, that was wonderful'.

The second - which is the one that the Sunday Times refused - shows the same couple, accompanied by the caption: "They came, did you? "OK - so it's a bit checky," admits a

spokeswoman, "But it's nothing compared to Häagen-Dazs or Benetton ads. We're particularly annoyed because the Sunday Times effectively spiked our campaign at its peak timing, and we have no more money to advertise with anybody else.

Advertising staff at the Sunday Times told Opera North that they telt the "people in the photograph are

Boh Hope fans will be pleased to hear that the 92-year-old comedian is still proving his virility, albeit no the golf course. A colleague of Eagle Eye who

are fully clothed cut no ice.

standing too close". The fact that they

has just visited the great man at his Los Angeles home found that Hope continues to play a round of golf every day, with a regular tee-off time of 4pm each afternoon at the Toluca Lake golf club. This means that he has a regular chance of joining the select hand of golfers worldwide who have managed to "shoot their age". Asked what he went round in these days. Hope replied in vintage style: "80 or 90. If it gets any hotter than



Mad cow disease scares would not have frightened the late Elvis Presley, one feels, An Arena programme to be aired on New Year's Day about the King's eating habits will feature an interview with his cook at Graceland. She says she served him a regular diet of cheeseburgers and fried peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. "The input's gottu be just as great as the output," was Presley's justification for his diet, an adage that will, no doubt, become the advertising slogan of some hamburger joint. He was a man of some culinary variety, though, having a penchant for fried squirrel, which must have made a wholesome break from another favourite snack, "fool's gold". French loaves split twice lengthways, each spread with a jar of peanut butter, a jar of jam and a pound of crisp-fried racon.



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so it doesn't cost you a ponny



Get a Mercury Minicall-it's your choice

"Calls are charged at 39p per minute reconomy rate, 49p at all other times. Calls made, from payahants, mobile phones and other nativorks are subject to network availability and principle; of their networks are subject to network availability and principle; of their networks.



2













# \* INDEPENDENT

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# An Oflot to be done

You'd better bring him out here and let us deal with him," the mob of National Heritage immediately on his cried. But Virginia stood ber ground. No one was going to get their hands on the lottery regulator, Peter Davis, until there had been a proper trial. Mad Dennis Skinner could how as much as he liked. "Black" Jack Cunningham could do his worst, but she refused to offload the head of Oflot until she had "considered the matter very carefully". A "kneejerk" reac-

Davis was spared to fight another day. The lynch-happy citizens of Parliament, UK (population 651), had taken to the streets because of revelations about the regulator in the backwash of last week's claim and counterclaim concerning Richard Branson and the American company GTECH. Mr Branson claims that be informed Mr Davis of an attempt by GTECH executives to bribe bim. GTECH rejects the original allegation and

tion was not appropriate, she said, so Mr

Mr Davis denies that he was so informed. This is not, bowever, why Labour was calling for Mr Davis's head. Mr Branson's accusations and the response to them now lonk likely to end up in court. But during the week it transpired that, while in America last year, Mr Davis had flown in a GTECH plane and that he is a close personal friend of a senior member of the GTECH board. Important MPs, including the chairman of the influential Public Accounts Committee, Robert Sheldon, have argued that these facts cast doubt on

Mr Davis's judgement.
Is this fair? Mr Davis, a staid accounonly availed himself of the GTECH jet to travel between GTECH sites, that this saved money, and that be submitted a full what consumers call regulation.

of National Heritage immediately on his return. As to the friendship, this was 20 years old and had played absolutely no role in any decision he has ever made as

It is hard to conclude, on the basis of the evidence, that Mr Davis should be summarily executed. It is a little worrying that the lottery regulator should turn out to have such a long-standing friendship with a senior figure in one of the world's largest lottery companies, but it does not appear that Mr Davis bas ever attempted to hide this.

But Mr Davis ought to reflect on why it is that so many people are dissatisfied with his performance. Bluntly, they are not convinced that his attitude to the monopoly that runs the lottery, Camelot (22.5 per cent owned by GTECH), has been anything like robust enough. True, the terms of the contract with Camelot were laid down by Parliament and Mr Davis was limited to ensuring the proper running of the lottery and seeing that money was gerting through to charities. But Mr Davis has interpreted this role in the most restricted way possible. While Camelot bas made vast profits, the regulator has stayed silent on the question of whether some charities have lost out badly, on whether Parliament might look again at the formula for funding good causes, and on whether there should be major changes in the way the contract is handled next time.

Contrast this supine attitude with the Is this fair? Mr Davis, a staid accountant of understated mien, argues that he from Oftel (telecommunications) has dealt with issues in his area, including Mr Blair's autumn BT brainwave. Now that's

# The end is not nigh for reform in Russia

On the face of it, there is not much for the West to cheer in the results of Sun-unable to deliver an improvement in livday's parliamentary elections in Russia. The Communist Party is the clear winner, the ultra-nationalists of Vladimir Zhirinovsky appear likely to capture second place, and moderate reformers and pro-Western liberals trail in third and fourth. Less than four main winner. Now, he and his cutely years after the collapse of the Soviet named Liberal Democrats have partly Union, one of history's most catastrophic experiments in murderous utopianism, the siren songs of Communist nostalgia clearly remain attractive to millions of Russian voters. Equally disappointing was the failure of reformists and democrats to form a united electoral front in opposition to extremists of both left and right.

Yet it would be a mistake to paint a picture of uniform bleakness. There are two crucial reasons for suggesting that this is not necessarily the end of the road for reform. Yesterday's refusal of the markets to panic reflects an awareness that the end is not yet nigh.

First, even in Poland and Hungary - the two most adamantly anti-Communist countries in Eastern Europe - former Communists now dominate national politics. Effect on political and economic reform: not much. The Communists came to power because of a generalised discontent. But they have few long-term solutions. In practice they, too, find themselves forced to administer the austerity measures that

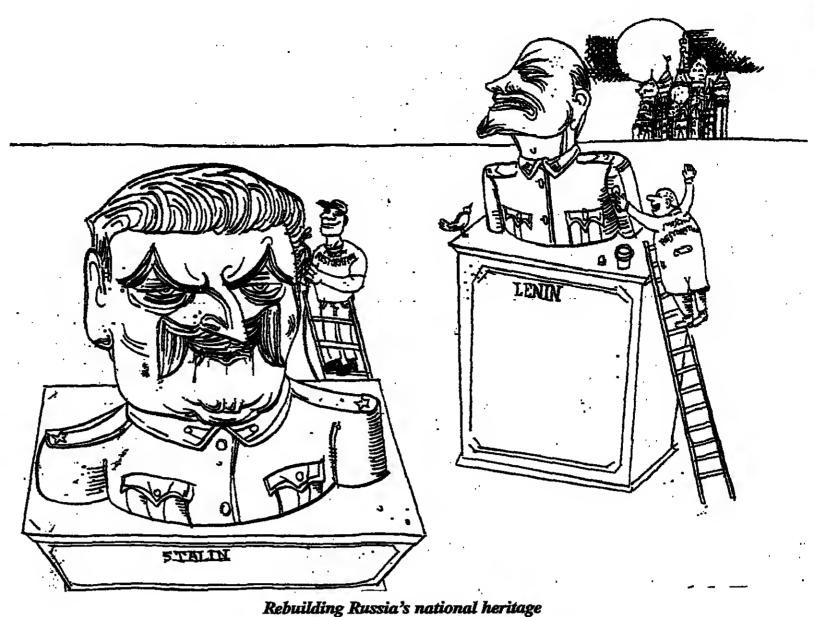
they found so easy to criticise in opposition. Second, this lack of viable answers means that the long-term prospects for Communist success in Russia as in Eastern Europe are poor. It is plausible to suppose that the Communists' performance

unable to deliver an improvement in living standards, will be less impressive than the result on Sunday. So far, Russian voters have tended to

zig-zag from one extreme to another. In 1993, the far-right Mr Zhirinovsky was the given way to the Communists. Resentments at the collapse of the Soviet empire, combined with the real hardship of life in Russia today, means that millions of Russians cast their vote for a Communist Party which has a nationalist economic and political platform: Zhirinovsky, without the lunatic tricks.

But, even before the collapse of Soviet Communism, it was clear that chauvinist resentments in Russia, on one hand, and loyalty to the Soviet way of life, on the other, ran so deep that any transition to a more democratic system would be troubled at best. So far, at least, what is extraordinary is not how badly things have gone

wrong but how much has been achieved. Meanwhile, the terms of Russia's constitution mean that the main battle lies ahead. Victory in June's presidential election is the real prize. Even here, however, it need not be bad news all the way. The West assumes that the ailing Boris Yeltsin is still the only hope for Russia's future. The West is wrong - just as it was wrong about Mikhail Gorbachev in 1991. Russia is, to put it mildly, in a terrible mess. But, however much Russians complain, the reforms are here to stay, whoever wins in June. One day, those changes might even bear unpoisoned fruit.



### Better ways of spending money for education Santa Claus takes on new ID

- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

From Professor Joan Freeman Sir: Now we have the evidence that private schooling has little or no effect on children's adult achievements ("Value of private schonling may be over-esti-mated", 14 December) – what really counts in life is ability – it is time for a rethink on the Goverument's Assisted Places
Scheme. This scheme moves
bright children, whose parents
could not pay the fees, from state
to private schools, Instead, the Government pays for them, a practice that costs the taxpayer about £105m a year.

Independent research has shown that most of the chosen children are from professional homes, such as those of schoolteachers, and that the most socially deprived children are the pupils from private education, private schools, who are not only benefiting from this financial largess, but also by having the leaven of so many of the brightest children in their classrooms.

From Mr Thomas Cleeve

posed is to increase the sentence

for an offence under section 139

Criminal Justice Act 1988, and to

Section 139 makes it an

offence for a person to have with

him in a public place an article with a blade or a sharp point without good reason or lawful authority. Currently, the offence is punishable by fine, not by impris-

onment. The section means that

anyone who carries a sharp knife

is prima facie committing an of-

fence. It also means that anyone

make it an arrestable offence.

Blunt talk about sharp objects

Sir: I read today ("Knife offenders will face jail sentences", 12
December) that the change proShould an

removed from their care for "improved" education, could think of many better ways of spending that money. Yours faithfully JOAN FREEMAN University of Middlesex London, W1 15 December

amount? I expect that any state

schoolteacher, particularly those

whose brightest pupils have been

From Mr K. G. James Sir: Why give such prominence to

in 1958, cannot be taken as releleast likely to be taken up for these places. As the results from Sussex University, carried out vant to any group born even just a few years later, and is certainly not relevant to children at school on 17,000 people, show that there today. In 1958, the grammar is precious little benefit to the schools were providing bright children from all socio-economic who is gaining? It can only be the backgrounds with a first-class academic education at least as good as that available in the private sector, regardless of ability to pay. Eleven years later, most of those grammar schools were In fact, if the state schools are still around, selecting their pupils Blagdon, Avon

who carries a nail or knitting nee-dle commits the same offence,

Should anyone wish to defend

himself in court against a charge under section 139, the prosecu-

tion has to prove only that the

defendant was carrying the arti-

cle. It does not have to prove

beyond reasonable doubt that

he did not have a good reason

for carrying the knife, nail or

knitting needle; it is up to him

to prove to the court that be did

I. like everyone else, am

appalled at the murder of Philip

Lawrence. But he was killed not

have such a reason.

doing as well by their pupils with very much less to hand, what couldn't they do with an equal the studied group will have completed their secondary education under the guidance of grammarschool teachers, even if by then their schools had gone compre-hensive. In circumstances like these, it is hardly earth-shattering to find that paying for education just wasn't worth it. (Note the use of the past tensel)

Today the grammar schools have gone, and those parents who seek a guaranteed high-quality academic education for their children either have to pay or choose where they live very yet another piece of meaningless educational "research"?

The study, based as it was on just one group of children born this one group of 35-year-olds that went through an education system that no longer exists, Professor Saunders would be better cumstances to see if there are any bright children out there who are being prevented from achieving their full potential simply because their parents can neither pay the fees nor afford to move. I think we all know what he will find. Yours faithfully,

but because someone used it

Laws that sanction using knives

to cause injury, and carrying knives with the intention of so

using them, already exist.
All criminal legislation restricts

the freedom of everyone. The

task in legislating is to balance the prevention and punishment of bad behaviour with the general

loss of liberty to the public that

results. It is dangerous to entrust such a task to a legislature dom-

inated by a tired executive whose

desperate attempts to obtain re-

election have focused on law and

Trouble in Tibet

Sir: In his article about the choice

From Mr Hua Jinzhou

Yours faithfully,

THOMAS CLEEVE

London, WC1

K. G. James

in the same way as the study team assessed them. Indeed, many of

Jul Tomten (Christmas elf).

Saint Nicholas is a bishop from
Madrid who has the jolly habit of
distributing presents to all Dutch
children on the eve of his own birthday on 6 December. The evening of 5 December finds him astride his white stallion (brought with him from Spain aboard his great white steamship) on the roofs of Holland, while his Moor helpers (all called "Black Pete") pop down the chimneys with the

The holy man is hundreds of From Mr Maurice O'C. Walshe years old and thus has a long white beard. He is dressed as a Halliday's letter (15 December fessor Saunders would be better bishop should, in long flowing employed looking at today's cirrobes, complete with staff and mitre. The predominant colour of ther than 1931, or even 1921. I

his garb is red. The Jul Tomten was a small elf. first encounter with "Sandy clad in grey, who on Christmas eve took care of the farm animals while everyone else was making merry (in short, too drunk to feed the animals themselves). In a red jacket Just once, when I was exchange for his labours, a dish of porridge was put on the steps outside for him.

These two were indeed "married" in the US, the Jul Tomten growing taller and distinctly fat-ter, and donning Saint Nicholas's colour of garment and long white beard. He also began distributing

products) are an American invention and, sadly, the Black Petes have disappeared. Talk about Yours sincerely.

MAYKE HOGESTIIN Marlow, Buckinghamshire 15 December

of a new Panchen Lama ("Tibet in turmoil over ruin of ancient rit-uals", 8 December), Tim McGirk father as a model. The Chinese are attempting to smash an occult ritual that has

persisted in Tibet for hundreds of This is sheer nonsense. The search for and determination of the 11th Panchen Lama was con-

ducted strictly in accordance with religious ritual and historical convention and has won the support of religious personnel and believers in Tibet. On the contrary, it is the Dalai Lama who violated the ritual

and convention on the issue of Panchen Lama's reincarnation in an attempt to deny China's sovereignty over Tibet and stir up trouble in Tibet by depriving the right of the central government to the final determination of the reincarnation. What be has done is unterly

illegal and invalid, and it is only natural that it has been rejected by the religious personnel and believers in Tibet. Sincerely yours, HUA JINZHOU

Press Counselior Chinese Embassy

London, W1

From Mrs Mayke Hogestim
Sir: Gretchen Mason (letter, 15
December) was closest to the truth in the debate about the origins of Santa Claus. He is, in fact, a mixture of the Dutch Saint Nicholas and the Scandinavian

presents to children.

The reindeer and sled (although typically Scandinavian

From Mr Lars Breimer Sir: The Swedish artist Jenny Nystrom (1854-1946) created Father Christmas (Jultomten) as he appears to us, not Haddon Sundblom, as stated in Richard Halliday's letter of 15 December. Jenny Nystrom won the gold medal of the Academy of Arts in

1881. From about 1890 she drew annual Christmas cards for Axel Eliasson, a publisher of greeting cards in Sweden. She used her

sea for his self-portrait because he looked like that figure. Yours reminiscently, MAURICE O'C. WALSHE Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire 15 December From Ms Frances H. Killingley Sir: Pace Jonathan Leckic (letter, 13 December), Father Christmas was well-known in this country long before Prince Albert's day. He rates an entry in the Oxford English Dictionary, which cites a pamphlet of 1658 entitled Examination and tryall of old Father Christmas - doubtless the old fellow had run into trouble under

dren's books, Sundblom's con-

tribution was to make Santa more

round and give him reindeers. In

Jenny Nystrom's cards, the sleigh

is pulled by a horse; reindeers are

not very strong. Jultomten is also sometimes accompanied by his

goat. The reason why Swedes

stick straw goats under their

Christmas trees is that they

deliver presents to the homes

Sir. I had a good laugh at Richard Halliday's letter (15 December).

The figure of Father Christmas as

we know him goes back a lot fur-

was born in 1911, and so had my

Claws" (as I at first understood

his name to be) just before World

War I. Even in those dark days he

was always there at Christmas in

about five or six, he appeared on some Christmassy object in dark

blue. I was most indignant: it

wasn't right! Coca-Cola merely exploited a

well-known stcreotype. The

Swedish artist was no doubt cho-

which Santa cannot reach.

Yours faithfully.

Richmond, Surrey

LARS BREIMER

15 December

the Cromwellian regime. A 15th century carol (no 21 in the dia Orford Book of Carols) features Sir Christemas who brings news of the birth of the Saviour and exhorts the company to "make good cheer and be right merry". Yours faithfully, FRANCES H. KILLINGLEY Wivenhoe, Essex

### Present imperfect

From Ms Susan Harris Sir: I hope Daniel Jeffreys ("No polka-dot ribbons please, we're British", 13 December) doesn't come shopping in the busy retail outlet where I work. I could easily conjure up some hostility and incomprehension for his request for the gift-wrapping of purchases, especially from the long queue of customers waiting behind him. Yours faithfully, SUSAN HARRIS

Jersey Channel Islands 13 December

From Ms Alexandra Richardson Sir: I read Daniel Jeffreys' lament about the lack of gift wrapping in British stores. I can sympathise.

When I really get fed up with this tiresome skinflint attitude, I do have my revenge: I select an item for purchase in a store, take it to the counter, engage in talk to waste their time, wait for the bill to be laboriously written up. Then I ask for it to be boxed. When I get a dismissive rebuff. I reply "No box, no buy" and walk oul. Maybe some day it will sink in. Sincerely,

ALEXANDRA RICHARDSON London, SW1

### **BSE** licked?

From Dr Richard Huddy Sir: Am I alone in concern about glue? I always thought that it RICHARD He was made from animal bones Manchester

etc, ground up. If this is still the case, should we not all stop licking stamps and envelopes? Sincerely, RICHARD HUDDY

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number. (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.nk) Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret that we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

# Uncle Jim gets carried away with sewage

Story, in which Uncle Jim takes Sally and Peter for a walk on Boxing Day and tries to persuade them hi knows more about nature than they do.

"So, wby is it called a sewage farm?" said Peter, wrinkling his nose as the acrid rural smell drifted slowly across the field. "I mean, it's not really a farm. is it? It doesn't produce anything, does it? It doesn't produce sewage, does it, even though it's called a sewage farm? It'a not like a beef farm, which produces beef, or a dairy farm, which produces dairy produce ... OK, a sewage farm takes sewage in but it doesn't send sewage out. It sends clean recycled water out, I think, but it doesn't call itself a water farm. So why ...?"

"So why don't you just stop talking for a minute and let me have a little word in edgeways?" said Uncle Jim. a small vein beginning to throh in his forehead, which both the children noticed with a glow of achievement. It sometimes tonk a lot to wind Uncle Jun up, but be was reacting

nicely today.
Uncle Jim breathed slowly and deeply to relax himself. He felt better.

"The word farm is often used in a jocular and inaccurate way to denote a workplace," he said. "Think of There was a pause.



the expression 'funny farm'..." What's a funny farm, Uncle Jim?" said Sally.

The phrase 'funny farm' was introduced to replace the phrase loony bin', said Uncle Jim. "There was a long time when the nature of mental illness was not understood, only slightly feared, so people shortened 'lunatic asylum' to 'lonny bin' to defuse their fears. Then 'loony bin' came to seem rather a cruel phrase, so it was replaced by 'funny farm'. 'Funny farm' in its turn fell foul of political correctness, so that has also

been phased out." "And what has it been replaced by?" Well, the Tories couldn't think of a new name for 'funny farm', so they decided to turn all mentally ill people out into the streets. This is called returning them to the community"."

"And why is it called a sewage many red berries still on the hawthorn farm?"

"Well, you have to remember that what we think of as a farm - a jolly place full of chickens in the yard and rabbits in the field - has been replaced by something much more bleak, and much less like the place depicted in children's books. Pesticides, modern genetic crop experi-ments, EEC directives, mechanisa-tion – all these have transformed the old-style country farm into an outdoors factory. When people use the term factory farming, they usually refer to the indoors totalitarian chicken battery or intensive pig breeding unit, but in truth all farming today, except on some free range or rare breed farms, is factory farming. A farm is a large outdoor green factory. 'Farm' has become another word for 'factory'.

"So 'sewage farm' just means 'sewage factory'?" said Peter slowly. "That's it," said Uncle Jim happily, never loath to depress the children. "Any other questions?"

"Yes," said Sally. "Is this the start of winter or the end of the autumn?" "Well," said Uncle Jim, "theoretically winter begins on 21 December with the solstice, but nature is never quite that neat. If you look in the hedgerow, you will see that there are

tree and a lot of old man's beard still hanging on the bushes. Now, those are both autumn sights, as they are all part of the great fruit and seed scene. But if you look carefully at the bedge again, you will see that there are already catkins hanging on the twigs. Catkins are a springtime sight, yet bere they are already."

"I thought catkins never came till the new year," said Sally. "That's only because we have been

taught not to see them till the new year," said Uncle Jim. "Everyone is taught that catkins and sticky buds come after Christmas. This is rubbish. They've been around for weeks. It's just that we don't notice them till after Christmas. Look at the chestnut tree, It's stiff with sticky buds!" "When I look at the hedge," said

"That's because the farmer has been flailing the hedge," said Uncle Jim. "Of all the nasty, destructive, ugly, useless methods developed by modern

Peter, "all I can see is nasty broken

farming, this is undoubtedly ..." Miles Kington writes: I'm sorry - I thought Uncle Jim was going to be a cheery old soul. He's turned out a right misery. I think we'll pull the plug on him

# comment

# Welcome back from the wilderness

Have Labour's bitter years in opposition meant the death of idealism on the left or just the birth of realism?

Ditterness and bad blood; the crushing of all optimism and the grinding away of all hope — BBC2's The Wilderness Years on Labour in opposition has been compelling and har-rowing viewing, not least for Labour MPs. Its general line, which Samuel Beckett himself might have found bleak, has depressed and angered

It is, to simplify, that there is no third way between the Vision Splendld of traditional socialism and mere conservatism. Throughout the final two programmes, the implication was that in its long, dusty and painful hunt for votes, Labour had no alternative but to betray its best self.
Labour's wilderness was certainly

not a silent place. It was peopled with garrulous prophets, repentant and otherwise. There was Tony Benn, the somewhat smug patriarch of right-cousness, and his flock; Neil kinnock, whose agonisingly honest self-criticisms suggested a man who had tasted hitter truths and risen above them; Denis Healey, who confessed that he really ought to have bothered to save the country from Thatcherism (but was, he implied, a little busy at the time); Roy Hattersley, who had made do rather well on his diet of locusts and

All saw the wilderness as a place of struggle and betrayal rather than revelation or hope. There was little positive explanation by Labour modemisers of their project, other than the need to destroy old negatives. The possibility of a new left politics harely got a look-in. This was history, admittedly, not advocacy. But it was history

with a sad ending. The final programme, broadcast last

for too long, it will really be denying its own beritage." And the narrator concludes of new Labour politicians: They have never tasted the fruits of power and their political legacy will be a party which has rejected almost everything it stood for when, 16 years

ago, it was cast into the wilderness." This was what Blair described in the Observer as "superficial and

flawed ... intellectually lazy and wrong . Was it?
At one level, the film-makers were clearly right. If one lists the policies Labour activists embraced in the late Seventies and early Eighties unilateral nuclear disarmament, bostility to the European Community, further nationalisation, high marginal income-tax rates, enthusiastic support for all strikers - then most of it has indeed been rejected by new Labour".

We can go further. Socialism, in the sense of a programme of state action and ownership for egalitarian ends, aimed at dispossessing the capitalists and resolving the class struggle by parliamentary means, is about as relevant to Nineties politics as Muggletonianism. (Latter-day admirers of the prophesies of Ludowick Muggleton are hereby encouraged not to write in.)

Does this mean that, so far as electoral politics is concerned, "the left" is dead, too - that we are all Conservatives now? Blair thinks not, and rightly. It is a historic oddity that we are still ohliged to discuss politics by sole reference to the seating arrangements of the French National Assemnight, closed with shots of John bly more than 200 years ago; but "left" Smith's coffin and funeral (and for is still recognisable as a clutch of atti-



ANDREW MARR Columnist of the Year

There is no talk of overthrowing anything, of eco-doom, or hostility to free trade

tudes and values which distinguish some political humans from others. Blair describes them as "solidarity, social justice, equality, community". These values can mean different things at different times, but there are postsocialist ways of trying to live up to them. Let's take them in order.

"Solidarity" was the watchword of trade unionists linking arms against employers; but if it really means standing together, that must surely include the un-unionised and people living on fixed pensions who were hurt by the militant unionism of the late Seventies. It presumably applies to victims of crime, too.

"Social justice" implies that society is inherently unjust unless civilised by political action. Today, that suggests support for a decent welfare state and attacks on dangerous concentrations of wealth and power. But it could involve radical changes to pensions and welfare, so long as the condition of the poor is not made worse - which would be manifestly unjust.

"Equality", if taken seriously, is unattainable in a free society. If taken unseriously, it merely means equality before the law. If taken semi-seriously, however, it means equality of opportunity; good schools for the poorest: the elimination of barriers to personal advancement; grants for higher education and so on.

And "community" means - well, you've got me there. Labour in power has mostly been intensely centralist and unenthusiastic ahout local power. But this time round, it might mean devolution of power. the rebuilding of local democracy and support for those non-political insti-tutions or "civil society" which bind people together and offer haven from a world of struggling, competitive individuals and selfish consumers. And if it meant that, it

would he a good thing. Blair's four values, in other words, could indeed influence a new Labour government. Whether they will is unknowable because we are talking about a possible future Britain, a country in which power was devolved to revitalised local authorities, academic excellence was demanded for all state schools, Scottish and Welsh parliaments established, a minimum wage enacted, the tax system changed, the Lords and Commons reformed, monopolies challenged,

There is a potential programme there which, if it were actually achieved in office, would represent "left" values just as adequately, and perhaps more so, than the statist socialism nostalgically celebrated by less roman Blair's critics. The changes to which he of us live.

is committed would make any rea Conservative choke.

Bryan Gould was seen last night saving that his old party had undergone a painful withdrawal from bope and ideals". It seems to me that the real withdrawal has been a withdrawal from fantasy and self-deception. Old Labour's language was grossly overblown compared to its real intentions. It talked about the martyred dead and the new Jerusalem, but it gave us the compromises and managerialism of the Seventies. It talked about itself as "a crusade". But it was Harold Wilson who used that phrase.

and what happened to his knights? In sbort, they meant it less and less. Socialism became something spoken. not done: by the time Labour last held power, the world was on the brink of the market and technological revolution which buried its statist thinking. Much of The Wilderness Years was devoted to people not recognising the

Blair, hy contrast, not only recognises but accepts it. Labour no tonger falsely promises to change the world, It believes Western societies are broadly moving along the right track. There is no talk of overthrowing anything, no hint of eco-doom or bostility to free trade, no end-of-century pessimism. The tone is perky. There are, no doubt, limits to this kind of politics. If something is radically vrong with the world, then new Labour doesn't have an answer.

But for the time being, most voters seem to agree with Blair's modest optimism, just as they disagreed with those mournful and angry folk who roared and bickered in the wilderness. Life back in the mainstream may be less romantic; but it is where the rest

This is the most interesting option, and one that hinges almost entirely on

Yavlinsky. A deal in the run-up to the

presidential elections would probably

involve a trade-off in which Zyuganov

became president and Yavlinsky prime

minister - crucially, with power to run

the economy. Such an alliance would

end the hopes of any pro-reform pres-

idential candidate, and herald a mod-

erate social-democratic regime.

Meanwhile, the pro-reform lohby

Voters have stopped

listening to Yeltsin's

# Church schools want ballots, too

The Government is in danger of looking both anti-democratic and ignorant, says Judith Judd

with the notion that church schoots should be allowed to a future government might become grant maintained with- argue that a church which had out a parental ballot? Perhaps n was through some misguided notion that the Church of England is still the Tory party at prayer and that church school governors are all nice white Anglo-Saxon Protestants who would leap at the chance of backing one of the Conserva-tives' favourite policies.

The reality is different. Ever since the Thatcher government came to power to years ago. there have been differences between the Church of England and the Conservatives about everything from the Falklands war to what children should be their governors. Another taught about God. So far the Anglican church, which has most of the country's church schools, has remained officially neutral, church schools would be arguing that parents should be assumed to have opted out left to decide \_\_\_\_\_\_unless they

their own fate. So far the Behind the scenes, how-Anglican church ever. bishops and church has remained officials take a less sanguine officially neutral view. Rab Butler's 1944 Edu-

cation Act. which established the present arrangements for church schools, has served them well. They have more independence than county schools because they control their own admissions. They have a majority of church-appointed governors on the governing body. Their run-ning costs are paid by the state and they contribute just 15 per cent of the costs of external maintenance and building, What is to be gained by opting

Greater independence, the Prime Minister suggested. revealing his ignorance about church schools. They are mostly primary schools, many of them small, that rely on both the dioceses and, in some places, the local authority to help them out in times of trouble. They are not straining at the leash to be free from outside control and they often have close connec-tions with their communities gests that whatever policy lt chooses will be unpopular. If

and neighbouring schools. Or maybe John Major must hope that the economy can deliver for their cause. GDP is thought that cash-strapped of that 15 per cent contribution, at a cost to the Treasury of upwards of £10m. Not so. Unlike politicians, the churches take a long view and see opting out as a threat to church schools' independence. Once a school opts out, the church ceases to pay its 15 per cent failed.

How did the Prime Minister contribution. All the capital comes from the Government, it is not fanciful to suppose that no financial commitment to its schools had no right to the privileges of control it now enjoys.

Even if the Prime Minister and his advisers can be forgiven for failing to understand the workings of the churches' minds, their difficulty in grasping the effect of his proposal to abolish parental ballots is bewildering. Why deny to church school parents the rights enjoyed by the parents of every other child? They instantly become second-class citizens who can be told what to do by option in the Government's consultation paper is even worse: it suggests that all

> voted to stay with the local authority. In other words ministers would decide what was best for schools that have prided them-

selves on their independence. It is anti-democratic and it is a reflection of the muddle ministers are in over their whole opting-out policy. When Margaret Thatcher first proposed opting out, she suggested that schools would be falling over themselves to opt out and that the policy would be as popular as council house sales. Instead, persuading schools to opt out has proved an uphill struggle. The result is a mess which the Government calls "diversity" and a debate in the Conservative Party about where to go next. The party is split over whether to abandon ballots and the slogan of parental choice, which is the keystone of its education policy, and com-

The fury unleashed by the church schools' proposals suggests that whatever policy it ministers had said in 1988. when opting out was introduced, that they would fund all churches would like to be free secondary schools from the eentre, they might have won some support at a time when local authorities were more unpopular than they are today. Now a decision to take away votes from parents will be seen for what it is: a resort to force where persuasion has



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# Why Russians are seeing red

The Communists' parliamentary success could bring reform to a halt, argues Martin McCauley

Aspectre is haunting Russia, the spectre of Communism revived. With more than half of the votes counted from Sunday's parliamenvary elections, the Communist Party of the Russian Federation (CPRF) seems certain to become the leading party in Russia's lower house, the Duma. Its sister party in the countryside, the Agrarian Party, is also doing very well: the new Duma could well be onethird Communist.

As has happened virtually every other Eastern European country, the

The general feeling is that anyone over 45 without a job will find it difficult to get one

electoral success of the Communist Party is a protest against the economic pain of the past five years. The Prime Minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, and his government have failed dismally to convey any sense of hope to voters that pain today will become joy tomorrow. And that was bound to have consequences at the polls, given that 70 per cent of the population have seen their living standards halved since 1991.

Market reforms always tend to benefit the young and those with techni-cal and marketable skills. The general feeling is that anyone over 45 who is without a job will find it very difficult to get one in future, in a market economy. So the Communists bave found ready support among the over-35s.

And the party has played blatantly on those popular fears. It accuses the on those popular tears. It accuses the government of forgetting about the social and human dimension in the rush a market economy. It has promised pensioners higher pensions, workers a job, patriots a great Russia, the religious a greater role for the church, and the young a bright future (which promise the young a bright future (which promise

the young, by and large, don't believe).
This wish list will be impossible to deliver. Not least because the Communists have no coherent economic policy, having, as it does, to encompass a hopelessly broad range of views.

These vary from the economic pragmatism of the Communist leader Gen nady Zyuganov, in reality a social democratic agenda with the acceptance of a regulated market, to more bardline Communists who would like to see renationalisation of privatised compa-



Chernomyrdin has failed to convey any sense of hope to the voters

the state - in other words, by them. Come January, the Communists will be seeking to use the Duma to draft and pass laws to increase social benefits, job security, pension rights and so on. Their aim is tactical: to force President Yeltsin to veto their legislation, thereby presenting the party as the protector of the Russian people and providing it with valuable ammunition for the all-important

presidential election in June 1996. While the Duma itself has virtually no power, the Communists still need a parliamentary majority to pass their legislation, which means they will need to seek tactical short-term alliances with various other groups in the Duma. Vladimir Zhirinovsky's Liberal

nies, and economic power regulated by Democrats, the nationalists everyone abroad loves to hate, have done much better than expected. A Communist-nationalist alliance would have a majority in parliament. But there are good reasons to think it will not bappen. Both parties regard Sunday's elections as a primary for the forthcoming presiden-tial elections. Both therefore are amious to maintain their distinctive identities to maximise their electoral support in that contest. Moreover, the Communists have an eye on their image interna-tionally. They wish to present themselves to the world as a modern reform party working along social-democratic lines, an aspiration that fits ill with Zhirinovsky's unsavoury reputation abroad.

And third, the economic policies of the sky, a clever economist who is highly Liberal Democrats are a mish-mash of respected in the West.

market economics and protectionism. The Communists need a coalition part-

ner with more economic expertise.
The Congress of Russian Communities (KRO) might fit the hill. Led by the charismatic general Alexander Lebed, the KRO was formed two months ago as the acceptable face of Russian nationalism, but so far bas lost out to Zhirinovsky. If the KRO feels disappointed at its own performance it may be tempted into a coalition, to gain a toehold in policy making. The Communists bave also flirted

with the idea of alliance with one or other of the pro-reform parties. The most likely would be Yabloko, well-

rhetoric and expect material improvement expected to grow by 10 per cent next year, and the IMF is negotiating a new \$9bn loan to Russia. The pro-reform lobby will be pressing Anatoly Chubais, deputy prime minister and minister for privatisation, to continue the breakneck speed of privatising larger enter-prises. This at least would put a com-

munist or nationalist president, if elected in June 1996, in a quandary. What effect would renationalisation have on the Russian economy, and especially on confidence abroad? If there were widespread renationalisation, the IMF and World Bank would be unlikely to extend loans to this new These election results reveal how confused and angry most Russians are, and how much convincing they still need that the market path is in their

interests. On these results, there is no indication that they will accept this. But in the next six months, the economy is almost certain to grow and life for some will improve. Will Russians who see others prospering believe they can join them? This is the crux of the matter.

Voters have stopped listening to President Yeltsin's rhetoric and expect bard evidence of material improvement. The irony of Russian politics is that an all-powerful president, consi-tutionally speaking, is at this moment powerless. Yeltsin's future, and the future of reform, depends on eco-nomic factors, not political ones.

The writer is senior lecturer in politics at the School of Slavonic Studies, University of London.

# member states to bring their fleets more into line with available supplies of fish; I will he seeking the best pos-sible deal for our fishermen. Opponents of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), which is being dehated in the House of Commons today, should realise that if there was no CFP, it would have to be invented. Fish know no national boundaries, so only by international agreement can the issue of conservation, without which the industry has no future, be properly

### ANOTHER VIEW Tony Baldry

# Cutting quotas - the best deal for fishermen

The story of Cornish fishermen some unemployment in communities A accepting government money for leaving their industry has been highlighted in the *Independent*'s columns. They are among the 164 boats that have been accepted for decommissioning this year, and join those that were successful in the first two years of the scheme. A total of £53m has een made available for this by the

Government over five years. It might seem paradoxical that an important part of the Government's policy for securing a healthy and confident fishing industry is to take measures that obviously lead to pain and

already under pressure, I know it cer-tainly isn't a cheap policy. It is, however, a necessary one. Fisheries scientists, both in this coun-

try and abroad, tell us that many of our most important stocks are at their lowest historic levels. Indeed, they recommend that catches of plaice and herring in the North Sea and mackerel around our shores be cut by nearly half next year in order to avoid the risk of these stocks disappearing into economic extinction. At all costs we need to avoid the situation that occurred in Canada's Grand Banks where stocks of cod, once

erally "fished out". The problem is of too many fisher-

men, with increasingly sophisticated equipment to find and catch the remaining stocks, chasing too few fish. Conservation - to ensure there are fish for tomorrow's fishermen as well as today's - is the reason that European fisheries ministers have, in recent years, set targets for each mem-ber state to reduce their overall fishing "effort". The UK's current means of reducing effort is paying fishermen to leave the industry; the alternative. of restricting the number of days each

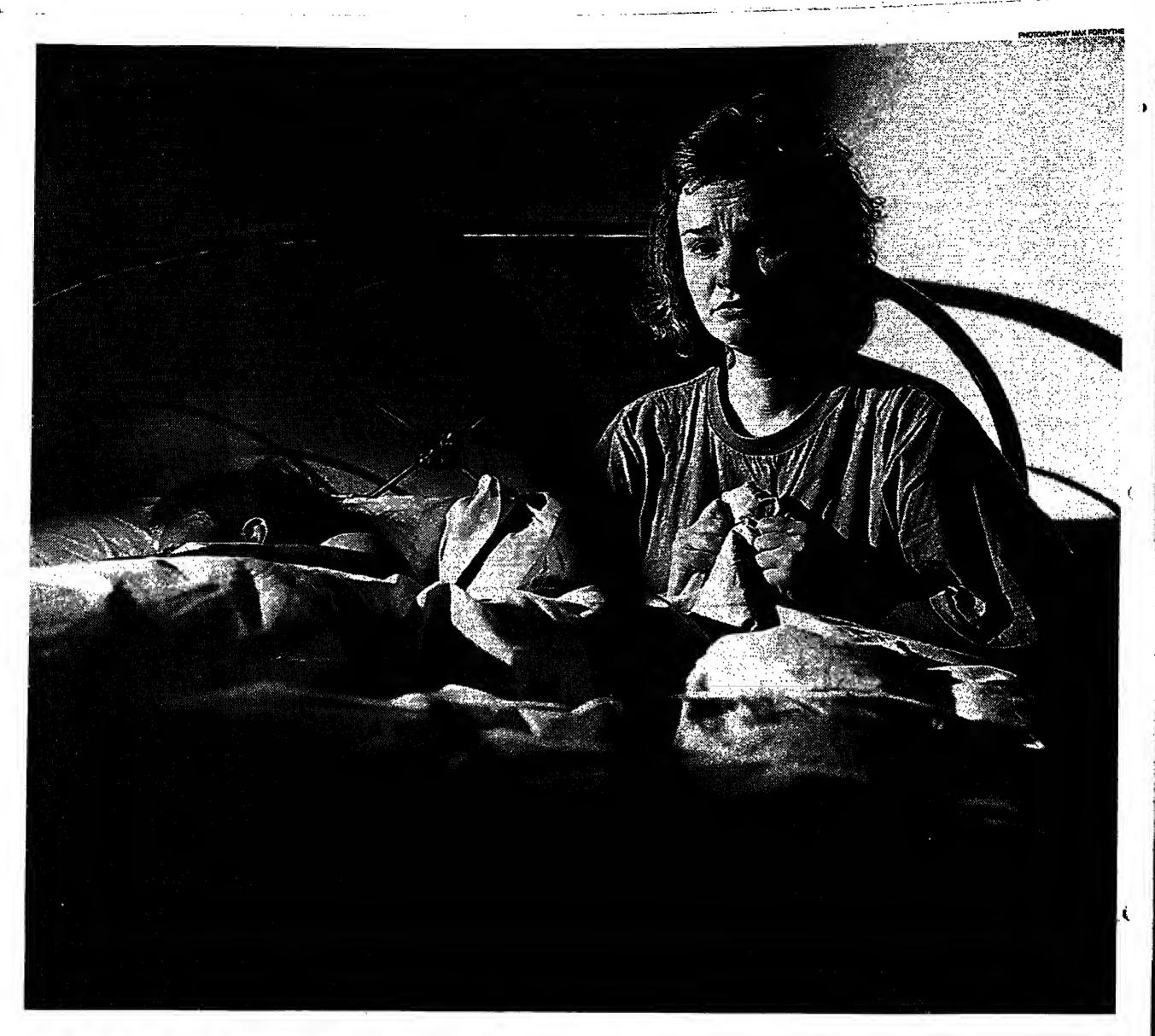
internationally famous, have been lit- and every boat can spend at sea, having proved understandably unpopular

with the industry.

In pursuing the policy we need to bear in mind that the communities affected need time to adapt. Newlyn has had 16 boats accepted for decommissioning this year. One should not underestimate the impact of this on the locality and there is a need to proceed gradually; equally, there needs to be stability in fisheries management from one year to the next, avoiding sharp changes in quotas as far as we can. Next year, fisheries ministers will

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discuss a further round of targets for The writer is Fisheries Minister.



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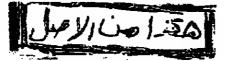
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# A tax crackdown ordinary folk might welcome



'Advisers hate the idea of general anti-avoidance

provisions because clients would then demand the exercise of their judgement to steer them through

the grey areas. But why are they so reluctant to do this?'

The discovery that the Inland Revenue is the demand the exercise of judgement as their thinking of introducing general anti-tax devisers steer them through the grey areas. beginning when it tried to talk merger with through. The stake will overhang the marthinking of introducing general anti-tax avoidance measures has brought a predictable bont of whingeing from tax advisers. The idea is to require businesses to demonstrate that transactions are carried nut

for a business purpose rather than for pure tax reasons. This would make life harder for companies such as News International, which has moved profits around the group to minimise tax in the UK.

While ordinary folk might think that the new approach might keep corporations on the straight and narrow, tax specialists are concerned that it would not work. They admit that general anti-avoidance provisions do exist in such territories as Canada and New Zealand, but claim they are not particularly effective.

What they are really worried about is the lack of certainty if they have to prove a business rather than a tax minimising purpose behind each transaction. It might seem that tax advisers benefit from confusion in the law, because of the amount of work it generates. They deny this, claiming it is better for business to be able to tell clients that they will definitely be taxed on X, hut will be caught for Y. Hence the warm welcome for last week's paper on tax simplification -because professionals believe clearer legis-lation will be easier to understand and create certainty about what the law says.

But why are they so reluctant to do this? Surely judgement and expertise are what ionals are in business to offer clients? One prominent tax specialist even con-

jures up the old notion of a threat to Britain's commercial reputation. Companies might be put off making deals because companies would be under much greater pressure to go to the Inland Revenue for an advance ruling on whether a transaction is acceptable or not. That would require mountains of paperwork.

Perhaps it is this line of argument that best

proves the sense of the Revenue's case. Does t not imply that many transactions make better tax sense than husiness sense? The really compelling argument, though, is that pre-transaction rulings are already routine n some areas of UK taxation as well as elsewhere in the corporate arena. Indeed, the Office of Fair Trading allows advisers not only to ask for prior approval of mergers but to negotiate deals to make them more acceptable. Tax advisers should be relishing the thought of similar freedoms.

### Amec wins reprieve, not a rescue

A fier fighting a poor campaign. Amec beat off Kvaerner by a much wider margin They hate the idea of general anti-avoidance provisions because clients would then than it expected or perhaps deserved. There

Sir Alfred McAalpine, and only last week the company dropped its public relations advisors after an embarrassing fracas with the Takeover Panel over leaks. Rvaemer's ad-

there is no justice in the world. Op a share offer for the preference shares was lower than expected and went down poorly. And the decision to make the bid final and set a foresbortened 21 day timetable - as the rules allow - removed all flexibility for negotiation and left insultations feeling they were being pushed around.

Amec is at the hottom of the engineering and construction cycle and there are two reasons to take it over now: the industrial logic of the merger, as argued in detail hy Kvaerner, and the scope for speculative gains by buying a company cheaply just on the turn of the market.

Amec has not excelled itself in recent ears, and Sir Alan Cockshaw was in charge then and remains at the helm of the company. There was natural scepticism about whether he could deliver the fruits of the recovery as well as he promised. But the card in his favour was that institutions were looking at an each way het that will probably be resolved, one way or another, during 1996.

Kvaerner, which was hinting a few days ago that it would dump its 26 per cent stake if it lost, failed to repeat this threat in its

ket, but it will also make a renewed hid either hy Kvaerner in a year's time or another party before then - a distinct possibility. No wonder PDFM, the fund managers visers, SG Warburg, must be reflecting with a 14 per cent stake, felt justified in backhere is no justice in the world.

But it is clear enough why they lost. The this is a reprieve, not a rescue.

### Why Fed should ease pressure now

Markets on either side of the Atlantic plunged yesterday on fears that Chairman Alan Greenspan and the rest of the Federal Open Market Committee won't cut US interest rates today. But there must be a very good chance that they will. They certainly should.

The latest sbenanigans in Washington over the budget clearly prompted the sell-off on Wall Street. With some reason: the US Fed has indicated that a budget deal would be rewarded with a further cut in interest rates following the quarter per cent reduction in early July. So the second partial shutdown of the Federal Government in a matter of weeks was hardly designed to cause a mar-

But a more compelling view is that the markets bad simply run ahead of themselves

occasions during the course of trading. In other words, investors who were willing to lock up funds for 30 years were being paid a vield of a princely quarter of a per cent more than the short-term rate of interest set by the US Fed. Even after yesterday's mayhem, investors in long bonds were only get-

business

ting half a per cent more for their pains. The markets have thus clearly been signalling their view that the Fed's policy is too tight. The most recent readings on the state of the economy suggest they are right. They have pointed to a slowing economy and an

absence of any inflationary threat. Jobs growth in the last two months has heen modest. Industrial production has been flat since August, bringing the annual rate of increase sharply down to under 2 per cent compared with over 6 per cent at the

beginning of the year

The inflationary hackground is also favourable. Consumer prices were unchanged in November - the first time there has been no monthly increase in four vears. The annual rate of inflation fell from 2.8 to 2.6 per cent.

This picture of a slowing economy and a favourable inflation outlook should persuade the Fed to act today despite the latest theatre in Washington over the budget negotiations. If the Fed doesn't ease rates down by a further quarter point, then the markets should contain their disappointin the long hull run. Last week, the US long | ment: it will then he likely to cut by even bond dipped below 6 per cent on several 1 more - a half percentage point - in January,

# Market mayhem on fears that US will hold rates

PAUL WALLACE and DIANE COYLE

Wall Street plunged almost 90 points at one stage yesterday as markets on both sides of the Atlantic fell sharply over fears that the US Federal Reserve would

not cut interest rates today. In London the FT-SE 100 fell 46.5 points - the biggest drop since early October - to close at 3,596.1. At 90 points down, the Dow Jones staged its largest fall for five months.

The pound ended the day close to its all-time low of 82.2 on the Bank of England's tradeweighted exchange rate. It fell to \$2.5 from 83 on-Friday. Against the mark it fell by 2 prennes to close at 22028.

Fears the US Fed will keep rates on hold led to a sell-off in treasuries. The benchmark US 30-year long bond fell by almost a point, taking its yield to 6.15 per cent. Gilts fell sharply, with the benchmark 10-year bond, losing half a point.

Market strategists said there were two explanations for the dramatic downturn. One was worries about the Fed not cutting rates because of the latest budget deadlock. The other suggested that the US mar-

kets, which have been storming ahead, had run out of steam. The markets are expressing displeasure with the lack of a

hudget pact," said Neil MacKinnon, currency strategist at But Mike Rosenberg, head of

international fixed income at Merrill Lynch in New York, said: "The bond market has been setting itself up correction people had been getting a little too bulled-up on bonds."
Philip Isherwood, equity

strategist at Kleinwort Benson, said: "The markets need a clear ge on interest rates and

The latest round in the standket Committee of the US cen tral bank will cut rates when it

has indicated that a budget deal would make it possible to cut the Fed Funds rate from its present level of 5.75 per cent. But the collapse of negotiations that led to a partial shutdown of the federal government has cast doubt on whether a rate cut

Despite the maybem in the markets, there was still some optimism that rates might fall today. Mr Isherood said: "On balance we still expect a rate cut that would lead to some sort of rally." Mr MacKinnon said: "I still think there's an outside

chance the Fed could cut." The dollar's weakening on the foreign exchanges was not helped by a smaller-than-expected reduction in Japan's trade surplus in November - at \$6.6bn, over \$1bn more than the \$5.4bn anticipated.

Japan's trade surplus dropped by almost a quarter in November compared with a year ago, with a particularly off between the Clinton admarked decline in the trade gap ministration and Republican with the US. The decline oc-Congress has deflated hopes curred mainly because of rising imports of computers, aerofrom Asia.

> per cent fall in October the year before, the market expectation had been for a bigger decline to Imports in November rose by

11 per cent from a year earlier to \$28.8bn, while exports increased by 3 per cent to \$35.4hn. Imports from Asia ran at \$10.8bn, up 17 per cent. Leisure group comes up trumps with 16% improvement in spite of competition from scratch cards



Kunick lifted annual pre-tax profits before exceptional items by 16 per cent to £8.3m despite inroads by lottery scratch cards, according to Russell Smith, chief executive (left), chairman Clive Clague (centre) and John Jones, finance director. Investment Column, page 20 Photograph: Jane Baker

# Oftel plans £100m phone access plan

MARY FAGAN Industrial Correspondent

Offel, the felecommunications watchdog, has proposed a £100m nation-wide fund to ensure access for everyone to the telephone network and a special low-cost deal for schools.

The move appears to leapfrog BT's agreement with the Labour party, announced in October, that it would connect all schools for free in return for assurances that it will be able to deliver broadcast entertainment

over the telephone wires. Under Geoff Hoon, Labour's shad- do with the connection." BT The plan, which could ulti-Oftel's proposals - part of a ow lechnology spokesman, said wider consultative document that Oftel's plan is a welcome of interfering. A spokesman bills for the average customer, on "universal services" - schools would also be entitled to a specified level of service from BT or rival operators at an "affordable

and predictable" price. Don Cruickshank, director general of Oftel, said: "It does not need a deal between BT and the Government of the day. It is wrong in a market which is becoming competitive to lapse hack into a monopolistic mech-

part of a wider dehate on access for schools and universities to the information superhighway.

"We have an understanding with BT and that still stands. But the understanding is nothing new and not all that remarkable. The connection is after all the relatively casy part of the process - it isnt an enormous exercise to take a wire up a school drive and connect the school. What is important is what they

said: "Our view is that until the market has failed. Mr Cruickshank should not interfere. BT did welcome the broader thrust of vesterday's proposals. which set out a mechanism for all operators to fund - or carry out - the provision of basic services throughout the UK. even where it is uneconomic to do so. At present the responsibility for universal services lies

includes free selective call-har ring for people who who do not have a telephone for fear their hills would soar. It also envisages a service barring all but emergency or operator ealls as an alternative to disconnection customers for non-payment

Under Oftel's proposals, the cost of universal service would be met by a fund of up to £100m annually, about 1 per cent of basic telephony revenues.

# Scots and Irish to merge US retail banking

JOHN EISENHAMMER Financial Editor

The Royal Bank of Scotland and Bank of Ireland announced the merger of their US com-munity retail banks into an operation with combined assets worth £9.3hn (\$14bn).

Bank of Ireland's First Hold-

ings Inc, which owns First New Hampshire Bank, is to be rolled into the higger Citizens' Financial Group of the Royal Bank of Scotland.

The merger is the latest move in a surge of banking consolidations in the US as regional banks seek cost advantages in

The terms of the merger value the enlarged New England operation, which will continue under the Citizens name, at \$1.85bn. It will create the third largest commercial bank holding company in New England with 222 branches, focusing on consumer banking and lending to small- and medium-sized

"I think it is a very good deal for both banks. It makes a lot of sense to get together in what is effectively the same banking market. I reckon you could get rid of 12 per cent of the combined bank's costs, the equivalent of 40 per cent of the Bank of New Hampshire's cost base, just by centralising every-thing," said Hugh Pye, analyst

Royal Bank of Scotland will hold 76.5 percent of the enlarged operation. Bank of Ireland will receive stock representing 23.5 per cent of the merged entity valued at \$435 m together with cash and loan notes with an estimated

value of \$220m which includes \$35m in respect of specified tax losses carried forward. It will also receive up to \$26m deferred cash consideration if other tax losses are realised in the future and will retain ownership of Bank Ireland First Financial, a small leasing subsidiary which has a book value of \$24m. Bank of Ireland will also nominate two members to the board of Citizens and will be represented on board com-

Citizens Financial Group re ported pre-tax profit in the year to September of \$170m, and Bank of Ireland First Holdings profits of \$32m in the six months to September.

The earnings of the enlarged bank will be substantially increased by synergy benefits, mainly cost savings as the sup-port functions of Citizens and First Holdings are combined in areas such as head office and technology. Additional benefits will come from sharing product development, marketing expenditure and technology in-

siment. Mr Pye added: "I think there is a good chance of the combined bank increasing revenues by 5 per cent, getting pre-tax profits up by \$60m, which would add between 3 and 5 per cent to the earnings per share of both banks. Together the banks will enjoy a very strong market share, either to carry on

with or to sell at a later stage." George Mathewson, Royal Bank chief executive, said: "This is a good deal. It will bring strategic and financial benefits to both of us. It will increase our earnings per share without the need to add new capital."

# Overseas investment in

PAUL WALLACE

British firms invested three times as much overseas in 1994 as foreign companies invested in the UK. There was a particularly sharp fall in direct investment into the UK from companies in North America.

Total investments overseas are calculated by the Central Statistical Office to have amounted to £18.5bn, £2bn more than its earlier estimate. Meanwhile, the CSO has revised down its estimate of inward investment by £500m to

time, shows that the US con-

A bribery scandal surrounding

Airbus Industrie deepened yes-

terday after German investiga-

tors raided company offices

and the homes of former di-

rectors and associates, writes

The authorities are looking

into alleged kickbacks to top Ca-

nadian politicians - including

former prime minister Brian

Mulroney - tn secure the sale

of Airbus A320 aircraft worth

\$1.8bn to Air Canada in 1988.

have been on the home of Karl-

heinz Schreiber - a former aide

to Franz-Josef Strauss, the for-

mer prime minister of Bavaria

and Airbus supervisory board

chairman, who died in 1988.

Also targeted, according to

German reports, were offices of Thyssen Industries and a home

owned by Holger Pfahls, a for-mer Defence Ministry official.

Airbus is a consortium which

brings together British Aero-

One of the raids was said to

Russell Hotten.

Airbus raided in \$5m

'bribes' investigation

tinues to be the country at-tracting the most investment over a third to £6.1hn, its low-est since 1986, In 1989 and 1990, tracting the most investment from the UK. In 1994, it accounted for 28 per cent of total investment. The next largest recipient was the Netherlands. with 13 per cent, followed by Australia with 10 per cent.

British companies stepped up their overseas investments in 1994 by almost £2bn. But the big increase was to countries outside the European Union and North America, where direct investment by British companies almost doubled. The increase to Latin America was particularly marked. By contrast, invest-ment to the EU fell 10 per cent The geographical breakdown ment to the EU fell 10 per cent for 1994, available for the first and to North America by 32 per cent. Inward investment fell

space and companies in France, Germany, Spain and Italy. It was

unclear yesterday exactly why the hribery allegations should be

emanating from Germany. A

spokesman for Airbus said the

claims were "totally unsuh

Mr Mulroney is already suing

Canada's government and po-lice for linking him to the kick-back claims. Mr Schreiber also

denied the allegations. Ger-

man federal prosecutors believe

Mr Schreiber paid Mr Mulroney

and other Canadian politicians

about \$5m to secure the Airbus

No charges have been filed in

Germany, Canada or Switzer-

land, where other reports said

Mr Schreiber set up bank ac-

counts for Frank Moores, for-

mer premier of the Canadian

province of Newfoundland, and

a second unidentified Canadi-

an politician. Mr Moores has

denied any wrongdoing.

deal, according to reports.

stantiated".

it was running at three times

The geographical breakdown showed investment from North America plunging from £5.2bn in 1993 to £1.8bn, However, investment from countries in the EU rose from £1.7bn to £3.3.bn. In the first half of 1995, British companies have again increased their investments overseas, which are running at an annual rate of £23bn.

However, there has been a recovery in inward investment. which is running at an annual rate of £14bn.

The importance of sustaining such a recovery is not in doubt.

According to the DTI, 40 per cent of manufacturing exports come from foreign-owned enterprises. Overseas companies manufacturing jobs and a third

of net capital expenditure. The problem Britain faces is one of increasing competition. Other countries in the EU are making much more active efforts to attract inward investment and the EU itself is facing competition from central and Eastern countries.

According to Regions of the New Europe, a study by Ernst & Young. 20 per cent of investment in Europe is being directed to countries of the

### IN BRIEF

### Ovens chief collects \$1m

Berisford, the Magnet kitchens company, paid \$1.1m to Marion Antonini, chief executive of Welbilt - the US ovens maker - when it acquired the company in January. Mr Antonini received the payment even though he remains chief executive of the company which makes catering equipment. He was also paid £590,000 last year, more than Bersiford's chief executive Alan Bowkett, who received £340,000. "He's American and he's paid an American rate for the job," the company said.

### RICS looks for upturn in housing market

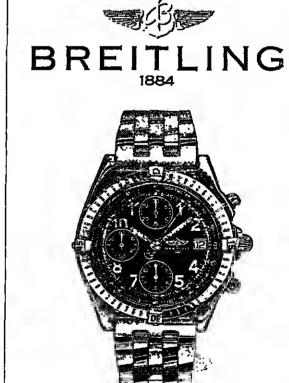
Activity in the housing market is expected to pick up in the New Year after a pause over Christmas, the Royal Institution of Char-tered Surveyors said yesterday. The institution's three-month survey to the end of November showed that three quarters of estate agents saw no change in house prices and 20 per cent saw a fall.

### Sir Richard stays at M&S

Sir Richard Greenbury is to remain chairman of Marks & Spencer for at least three years. But Sir Richard, 59, says he will step down by 2001 when he will be 65. There had been speculation that Sir Richard might become non-executive chairman. M&S would not comment yesterday on a possible successor.

### Banker to lead Gas talks

British Gas has appointed Kenneth Gardener, a director of Charterhouse Bank, to renegotiate its long-term contracts with North Sea producers which are forcing the company to buy more gas than it can sell at present. .



At a time when instruments unerringly cope with Mach 2 flight data continued improvements to the mechanical chronograph simply underscore that there's more to time than technology A movement's intricate beauty or a hand-polished case's lustrous gleam do put technological progress in a broader perspective.

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INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS

### THE INVESTMENT COLUMN Edited by TOM STEVENSON

# Cadbury's chocolate-coated deal

Cadbury Schweppes: at a glance

Market value: £5.4bh, share price 547.5p

per transformed the group's drinks

fe25 next year the shares are a decent
merests and made Cadbury a credibold. ble number three in the US market behind Coca-Cola and Pepsi.

But while the soft drinks market offers the more spectacular opportunities, the confectionery division offers steady growth, too. Yesterday's £108m deal to buy the Canadian business, Neilson Cadbury, underlines the group's strategy to hoist itself up the worldwide confectionery league. The top places are held by Nestlé, Mars and then Philip Morris which owns Jacob Suchard. Cadbury is in the tier below along with Hershey of the US.

Cadbury may have a wish list of big targets such as Ferrero of Italy or Lindt of Switzerland. But if these prove elusive it can still put on muscle with a series of smaller deals like this one in Canada. It is growing organically by investing in younger markets such as Russia, Poland and Argentina.

Cadbury already has Canadian links through its Trebor division but with this deal it is buying back an old cast-off spruced up under different owners.

Cadbury sold its Canadian interests to Neilson in 1987 but retained a royalty agreement. It bailed out then because the market was ultra-competitive and the business was performing poorly. It is now buying back a bigger, stronger business that has Cadbury and Neilson product ranges and an improved manufacturing system with a lower cost base.

There is solid logie to this deal. In June, Cadbury acquired Allan Candy, one of Canada's biggest confectionery companies. With the Neilson business bolted on, Cadbury will he market leader in Canadian confectionery ahead of Nestlé and Mars. The market is still competitive as last year's profits of £5m on sales of £109m testify. But there should be benefits from running the Allan Candy and Neilson

businesses together.
The deal adds to Cadbury Schweppes's debt mountain which stood at £1.4bn at the balf-year stage in September, giving gearing of 100 per cent. Cadbury says it is using debt to pay for the deal, though a share placing cannot be ruled out.

Cadbury Schweppes shares bave enjoyed strong growth this year rising by more than 50 per cent to 547p, up

Cadbury Schweppes's soft drinks di-vision bas bogged the beadlines for the a forward rating of over 16, a premium ting Medeva in on the act. company this year. January's £1.1bn to the market. But with analysts foredeal to buy the remainder of Dr Pep- casting profits of £525m this year and

### Chiroscience in Medeva tie-up

Shares in the "biotech babes" had done well this year even before British Biotech's were sent soaring by last month's announcement of a potential breakthrough in the treatment of cancer. Chiroscience, a leader in so-called chiral chemistry, is no exception, but the roller-coaster nature of the sector was well-illustrated by yesterday's announcement of a co-development deal with Medeva. Having more than tripled from around 100p this year, the shares fell back 25p to 339p on the news.

The market did not have very much to go on, as neither company would even reveal which drug was involved or which side it belonged to. But the rationale behind the fall in the shares was presumably that Chiroscience is That looks wide of the mark. Yes-

terday's deal is most likely to relate to methylphenidate, Medeva's controversial treatment for hyperactivity in children, known as "attention deficit disorder" in the US. Facing the prospect of competition in 1997 from Johnson Matthey, which is developing a rival generic version of the drug, Medeva is no doubt looking to add

some bells and whistles to its product, which is presumably where Chiroscience's chiral speciality comes in.

This branch of chemistry studies the ability to isolate isomers of existing drugs, making them purer and poten-tially less prone to causing side-effects. Applying that science to methylphenidate could allow Medeva to clean up in what could be a £220m market in the US. A 10 per cent royalty on those sales would net Chiroscience potentially £20m. Even if the new drug is no more than a line extension of the existing drug, it could pull in more roy-alties than Chiroscience's entire £1.71m

turnover for last year.

There should be plenty of further news flow to keep investors happy in the new year. D3967, a treatment for

breast cancer, goes into clinical trials in February, when there should also be further details of the Medeva deal. But, "burning" cash at the rate of £1.1m a month, Chiroscience will need to raise more money soon as its cash balances last August were only £21m. Given Yamaichi's net asset value estimate of 520p a share, the company should have fittle difficulty raising the cash, but the shares remain speculative.

### Kunick a good recovery bet

Kunick yesterday laid to rest the joke that the 10p tokens paid out of its Bell Fruit gaming machines were a more valuable currency than the company's shares. Sent reeling by the recession, Kunick is now one of the least risky re-

covery plays in the leisure sector.

Profits before tax for the year to 30 September, announced yesterday, grew from £7.1m to £8.3m - a stark contrast to the river of red ink that flowed from the accounts three years ago. Despite the continuing impact of the National Lottery, further, solid growth is on the cards this year, with deregulation allowing fruit machines into betting shops. If everything goes to plan there will upwards of 12,000 fruit machines

in bookies this time next year. If Kunick can lay claim to 25 per cent of that market, through deals with the likes of Ladbroke, the rewards will be handsome. Analysts reckon 3,000 ma-chines could equate to £1m a year of

On top of gaming, Kunick has another nice little earner in the form of a 50 per cent share in Finagest, the floated off as early as 1997. With luck that will make up for a sharp downturn in consumer spending in France which has hit that country's operations hard.

All told, the existing businesses, a joint venture with Allied Domeco to develop 20,000 sq ft leisure complexes and a move into the management of local authority leisure facilities should see group taxable profits climb to £10.5m this year.

The shares have soared 70 per cent this year to almost 24p, but still look to have a way to run. Prospective earnings per share of 1.67p give a p/e of 14.2, and a dividend of 0.7p to follow this year's 0.6p gives a gross yield of 3.7 per

# Simon Pincombe CITY DIARY

# Cloakroom-and-dagger saga raises few cheers

Seasonal shenanigans at the Thai restaurant in Queen Victoria street have presented the mighty Citibank with something of a PR problem. Fuelled by a surfeit of Christmas cheer, three bank employees apparently wandered into the gents' cloakroom and removed three coats belonging to other diners (it probably seemed hysterically funny at the time). Unfortunately, the mantles belonged to three Financial Times scribes who were letting their hair down at the City Desk Christmas party at the time. They were not in the least amused to find their clothing missing.

Neither were the bankers amused when they discovered the identity of the owners. The coats were quickly returned with the traditional peace offering of a bottle of

champagne.
The pranksters may not be ont of the woods yet. One hack reports his gloves are still missing; another says his gas bill has been opened. The smart move would have been to pay it.

A flick through the Forte share register reveals the venerable Lord Forte to hold 1.5 per cent of the company he founded. By coincidence that is exactly the amount pledged to the Granada marauders at the close of play last Friday - the first bid deadline. No ... surely not?

Here is the first in our pre-Christmas week series of great executives and their on mots. Alicia Bishop, an 18-year-old pupil at Heath-field school in Ascot, has written to Britain's captains of industry to ask them what advice they would give to an 18-year-old school-leaver. A booklet, compiled by ECI Ventures, has preserved the collective gemus for posterity. Today we feature Sir Christopher Harding, chair-



The telephone rings. It is Gwendoline Lamb (above), the world's unluckiest investor (so you know it to be a serious matter). The Middlesborough Mistral calls to remind us that this is her 14th Christmas on sardines since her flagship investment vehicle, the Savings & Investment Bank, went bellyup on the Isle of Man. As ever, the focus of her formidable ire is Coopers & Lybrand, the liquidators of the crashed bank, which she claims is still sitting nn £1.8m of investors' money. "I am still in the same position and Michael Jordan [the then senior partner of the Coopers insolvency arm] retired a year ago," she bellows.

Neither has the news that the liquidators are selling land in Portugal gone down well in the Lamb household. "They are out there enjoying themselves at my expense," she roars.

titled. A short course in human relations. The six most important words: "I admit I made a

The five most important words: "You did a good job." The four most important words: "What is your opin-

The three most important words: "If you please." The two most important words: "Thank you," The least important word:

Brings a tear to the eye. doesn't it? Midland Bank finds itself in possession of 25,000 tickets for next summer's European

football championships and

offers them exclusively to its

credit-card customers, Credit-card points will count towards the cost of the tickets, but at a rate of £1,000 for every £5 off a ticket. To get the best seats you will need to spend £27,500. Start saving now for France 1998.

The fax machine chatters. It is a missive from Another Place. Lord Young of Graffham, the former Cable & Wireless chairman and Thatcher minister, has been reading reports of his social life in this column. "Yes, you did spot me enjoy-

ing Tosca at the Royal Opera House with the obligatory female companion," he faxes. "We will enjoy our Ruby wedding anniversary next

### Takeover rumours sour the big Apple

DAVID USBORNE New York

Speculation over the future of Apple and its embattled boss Michael Spindler is rife once a loss in its first fiscal quarter, more after gloomy warnings from the company that it may be facing an unprecedented loss in the quarter ending 31 December.

The forecast bas reinforced the belief of analysts that Apple may soon be forced to seek a buyer to survive and that Mr Spindler's bumpy five-year tenure as chief executive may

soon be terminated. Meanwhile Mr Spindler has hinted that he may enact a savage job-cutting programme in attempt to revive Apple, with some analysts predicting that as many as 1,300 positions, or 7.4 per cent of the workforce, may be slashed.

Mr Spindler said the company, which has around 10 per of Japan and Motorola.

cent of the US market, was reviewing all of its operations and "will take appropriate actions to address the challenges".

Apple has never before made which includes the pre-Christ-mas retail period when computer sales should be at their most robust. In August, the company initiated price cuts of up to 40 per cent in a risky bid to build sales and market share.

As Apple's fortunes deteriorate, and the price of its sbares dips, so anticipation of a buyout is heightened. By the same token, bowever, the takeover buzz is protecting Apple shares against any sudden free-fall.

suitors ranging from IBM. which collaborated with Apple on developing the PowerPC computer chip, to Oracle, Sony

COMPANY RESULTS							
	Tamover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend			
Brissway (I)	20.2m (19.4m)	1.05m (0.51m)	0.89p (0.43p)	0.28p (0.24p)			
British Thornton (1)	4.84m (4.65m)	-0.59m (0.30m)	-3.7p (1.3p)	nii (1p)			
Crest Packaging (I)	22.7m (21.6m)	1.43m (1.84m)	2.7p (3.5p)	1.375p (-)			
Ivory & Sime (i)	7.39m (8.49m)	2.95m (3.1m)	6.42p (6.52p)	2.5p (2.25p)			
Jenes & Shipeson (I)	8.9m (6.12m)	0.62m (-0.90m)	2.1p(-3.5p)	nii (nii)			
Koniek (F)	105m (95.2m)	12.2m (8.96m)	2.39p (1.59p)	0.6p (0.5p)			
Lawrence (I)	8.9m (2.68m)	0.82m (0.34m)	9.6p (Sp)	1,6p (-)			
Mosaic Investments (I)	3.15m (9.59m)	-3.34m (-1.69m)	-10.64p (-5.86p)	0.5p (1p)			
Rolle & Holan (1)	7.66m (7.1m)	1.07m (0.74m)	5.35p (2.9p)	1,5p (1.4025p)			
Victoria Carpai (i)	17.8m (18.1m)	0.02m (0 34m)	0.19p (3.25p)	nd (nii)			
Willoughby's Coa (F)	15.0m (13.0m)	1.06m (1 53m)	7.2p (13.1p)	2.5p (2.5p)			
Winkest (I)	- (-)	1.52m (1.38m)	9.69p (8.45p)	4,02p (3.65p)			
(F) - Final (r) - Interim	(XI) - Nine months						

# From growth pause to recession

paralysis, but maybe they should have been glum about something else. One of the best questions to ask if you want to peer ahead into the economic future is always: what is the surprise? What is the thing which we ought to have spotted at least as a possibility, but which hard-

ly arryone has yet noticed? I have a candidate. It is that the pause in US growth which is clearly taking place at the moment might turn into something worse, maybe even a recession.

To explain. Look around the world and there are clear signs almost everywhere of slowing growth. Only yesterday the German government warned of slower growth there. Last week Kenneth Clarke acknowledged that UK growth this year would be below the figure in the bud-get forecast a couple of weeks earlier. Japan continues without any real recovery at all. And while growth in France bas been creeping upwards, latest estimates are being downgrad-

But there is a big difference between slower growth, even the very slow growth dubbed in the US as a "growth recession", and none at all. For most people, that is not yet on the screen. If, however, there is to be another world-wide recession - and some day there will inevitably be one - then the most likely place for it to start would be the US, simply because the US is furthest along the cyclical path. It has had the longest period of expansion, having been growing steadily for about five years.



ECONOMIC VIEW HAMISH McRAE

awareness of the danger of recession was a paper by Lacy Hunt, the chief US economist at HSBC Markets. The HSBC thesis is that the various measures of economic activity have all been falling on a year-on-year basis for upwards of 12 months. They are not yet negative and may not become so. But this sort of downgrading has in the past been followed either by a growth recession or by full-

own recession.

by the time the figures are published the view has become mainstream. There is some. For example, when the bank's team has been visiting US clients in the last few days, they find that their own perception of a marked slowdown is echoed by the senior executives to whom they are making their presentation.

The key question, though, is not so much bow marked the slowdown in the next six The baseline prediction is months, but rather the capaci-

### It will, as usual in the US, be up to the consumer to pull the economy along

a full percentage point in in-terest rates during the course of the next year. The risk of a full recession as severe as that of 1990/91 is put at 35 per cent.

That would be higher than almost all other US forecasters; the mainline view is very much that while there will be slower growth, maybe less than 2 per cent, there is little danger of a worse outcome than that.

for the growth recession, but this depends on the Federal Reserve a rebound in the second half of continuing to ease monetary next year. What might support policy. HSBC have factored in such a rebound? It won't be public spending, for there are tax rises in the pipeline and the budget impasse, however it is re-solved, will surely lead to greater tightening of fiscal policy. Meanwhile the budget problem remains unresolved, which may delay any interest rate cuts the Fed would like to bring in.

If not public spending, what about exports? On a ten year view US export performance has been impressive, but the export When you get a view on the extreme end of the range you sector is still too small to make look for corroborating evidence. a make a material impact on the What triggered my own It has to be anecdotal because growth of the economy as a pause there too.

were performing strongly, which they are not. No, it will, as usual in the US,

be up to the consumer to pull the economy along, and here the Fed's actions will be crucial. Consumers bave to be pre-pared to carry on piling up debt, and the Fed has to cut rates to reduce the burden of the debt they have already accumulated. If it does not do so, or if (in the absence of a budget deal) rates were to rise, recession would be virtually guaran-

Conclusion? It is always useful to have the extreme view set out in a logical manner, if only because that gives one a point of reference from which to disagree. Up to now most of us here in Britain have been much more worried about the dangers of a slowdown across Contineutal Europe than of one in the US. As a working assumption we should at least not take the US economy for granted, and be aware that the danger of a new world recession starting there is at least as great as one starting

in Europe. I do not think at this stage there is enough evidence to go much beyond that. Slow growth, between 1 and 2 per cent, is more likely than no growth. But no-one should expect the US to give much help to the world economy during the next few months. It is no longer the locomotive. Finally, in so far as the recent heady performance of the US stock market depends on reasonable continued growth in the economy, expect at best a

### INBRIEF

Ivory & Sime 'rebuilding foundations' whole, even if the two main US | Ivory & Sime, the Edinburgh-based fund manager, sold it expected said it was rebuilding solid foundations that augured well for the future. It saw funds under management rise 19 per cent to £3.7bn in the six months to April. The figure included an extra £339m from the acquisition of Clan Asset Management and Baronsmead Group. Despite the additional funds, pre-tax profits fell from £3.1m

### to £2.95m, although the dividend is raised from 2.25p to 2.5p. Pressure on Crest margins eases

Crest Packaging said pressures on margins were easing with the stabilisation of raw material prices. Trading conditions remain tough, but the company is looking forward with increasing confidence. Pre-tax profits fell from £1.38m to £1.07m in the 26 weeks to 28 October, but the interim dividend is held at 1.375p.

### Black & Edgington rights issue

Black & Edgington, the former tent hire and camping equipment group, has written to shareholders explaining its plans to convert into a pharmaceuticals company. To be renamed SkyePbarma, Black will pay between £12m and £27m for Krypton, a Gibraltar-based drug development firm. The deal will be partfinanced by a one-for-four rights issue at 4p to raise £9.3m.

### Perkins nets £11m from shellfish sales

Perkins Foods announced a £10.9m deal to sell its UK shellfish businesses to The Seafood Company, a venture backed by Phil-drew Ventures. The two subsidiaries, Anchor Seafoods and The Cromer Crab Company, import and process frozen and chilled shellfish. The equity is being sold for £6.7m, with the balance of the deal relating to debt.

### **Confident Brasway doubles profits**

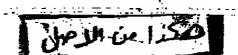
Brasway, the hydraulic bose maker to industrial oils blender, has seen a recent slowing of orders in its main Europower business. However, it says the underlying outlook and order book around the world remains good. It unveiled a more than doubling in pretax profits to £1.05m in the year to 28 October, from £505.000 before. The interim divided given 17 presents to 0.200. before. The interim dividend rises 17 per cent to 0.28p.

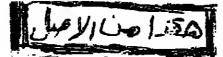
### Century Inns trades today

Shares in Century Inns start trading on the stock market today some 10 months later than scheduled. Just over 20 million shares were placed at 120p last week, valuing the biggest independent pub trader in the north of England at £47.4m.

You deserve down when you're up.







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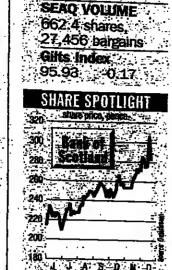
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# No sign of the festive spirit as Footsie takes a dive

The festive spirit was sadly absent from the stock market with the FT-SE 100 index crashing 46.5 points to 3,596.1. The fall, the steepest since

October, was largely on the back of New York where, in scenes of utter confusion, computer problems delayed the opening for an hour and the Dow Jones Average was ooce almost 90 points lower.

New York's hasic anxiety was fuelled by the Budget stand-off which is seen as ruling out any further interest rate culs for the time being.

The latest decline puts in eopardy the traditional Christmas rally. In receot years the Footsie has scored spectacular progress in the run up to Christmas with prices surging ahead in thin

The very paucity of trading created much of the cheer, It took little action to produce

with, for example, Footsie jumping more than 100 points ahead of Christmas last year.

Although blue chips edged ahead for the first four days of last week they gave up much of their gains on Friday and yesterday's decline meaos Footsie has falleo 75.5 points

in two trading days. Even last week's high flying take over favourites came down to earth with a thump. Royal Bank of Scotland, which duly lined up its US deal with Bank of Ireland, lost 23p to 585p and Bank of Scotland 22p to 284.5p. National Westmin ster Bank, with its US disposal expected to be announced this week, gave up 23.5p to 629.5p. Other financials were also

hit, with the once hid-happy insurance shares giving ground. GRE fell 10.5p to 259p. Airtours, the holiday group



DEREK PAIN Stock market reporter

on the 16 Marrion hotels in the

UK. Ladbroke's internation-

al spread of Hilton hotels

would be a welcome addition

to the Whitbread chain - but

it could find it difficult to rec-

oncile the Marriott and Hilton

Bookie Gns Carter rose 3p

to 58p. It said that it had held

Leisure and others but "no

firm intention to bid had

the gloom, gaining 17p to

and reports of improved high

Next. the retailer, ignored

managements.

been made.

forecasts - and is now warning of a holiday shortage next - gained 13p to 352p but First Choice, due to report today, stuck at 64p as the mar-ket braced itself for a dismal Ladhroke was one where

takeover rumours stuck. But even the betting and hotel group needed a new name in the frame to remain on the right side. The shares cantered 3.5p to 153.5p as Whitbread replaced Bass - the long rumoured bidder - as the front

The story could draw support from Whitbread's hotel

4p to 673p. The bio babes had, not surprisingly, a difficult session but British Biotech jumped 112p to 1.720p. Chiroscience, duly

confirming its pact with the drugs group, Medeva, fell 25p to 339p.

SelecTV, ahead of the expected Pearson bid, gained 2p 10 30p but Amec, awaiting the result of the Norwegian offer,

gave up 3p to 93p. Cray Electronic tumbled 6.5p to 40.5p after further consideration of last week's results and high flyer Telspec lost 44p to 842p as profit-takers moved in. Norcros, the building ma-

thought to be on the verge of

terials group, gained 4p to 84p. The hard pressed group is

versal Stores is never far be-low the surface. GUS put on has developed the technology which allows television sets and telephone lines to act as information and communica-

market report/shares

tion terminals. Tele-Cine Cell, providing production and special effects facilities, tumbled 26p to 72p after warning of lower profits. The shares were floated two years ago at 170p. English National, an in-

vestment company, edged forward 1p to 46p. The shares have climbed from 34p this month. The trust is under new management and there is talk of some intriguing overseas involvement. It is suggested that Joseph Lewis, the Ba-hamas-based investor who has built a 25.32 per cent shareholding in auctioneer Christics International, has taken a

Sims Foods, up 2p at 35p. reflected hopes of a bid from

TAKING STOCK

as a media group, could be near to completing its first deal since the arrival of Chris financier at Swiss Bank Corporation, It is thought that the long-running talks tn acquire FreePages, a rival tn BT's Talking Pages, have at last reached a cooclusion and details will be known this week. Blagg's shares are likely to be suspended while the deal goes through. They

☐ Ingham, which coce had ambitions to become a minicooginmerate, onw sees its 36p a share. It is in talks to sell its worsted spinoing side and will presumably also dispose of its car parts and property operations. The

closed at 16p.

# street trading in the Christmas which last week produced ambitions. In August the brew-Viewinn, the latest AIM rerun up helped. But the old stoexaggerated price movements profits in line with market ing group splashed out £180m ry of a link with Great Unithe Whitehurch food group. cruit, reached 135p against a SHARE PRICE DATA Prices are in sterling except where stated. The yield is last year's dividend, grossed up by 20 per cent, as a percentage of the share price. The processings (P/E) ratio is the share price divided by last year's earnings per share, excluding exceptional items. Other details: xr Ex rights a Ex-dividend a Ex-all v Unlisted Securities Market s Suspended pp Partly Paid pm Nil Paid Shares. Source: Finstat. THE INDEPENDENT INDEX The index allows you to access real-time share prices by phone from Scaq. Simply dial 9891-123-335, lollowed by the 4-digit code printed next to each share. To access the latest financial reports dial 0891-1233 followed by one of the two-digit codes below. FT-SE 100 - Real-time 00 Sterling Rates 04 Privatisation Issues UK Stock Market Report 01 Bullion Report 05 Water Shares UK Company News 02 Wall St Report 20 Electricity Shares Foreign Eachange 03 Tokyo Market 21 High Street Banks Anyone with a tone-dial telephone can use this service. For a detailed description of The Todependent Index, including its portfolio facility, phone 0891 125 335, For assistance, call our helpline 071 873 4375 (9.34xm - 5.30pm). Calls cost 39p per minute (cheap rate), and 49p at all other times. Call charges include 1/47 **MARKET LEADERS: TOP 20 VOLUMES** 5,600 ASDA Group FT-SE 100 INDEX HOUR BY HOUR 14.00 3615.4 down 27.2 Open 36421 down 0.5 11.00 3630.3 down 12.3 15.00 3612.4 down 30.2 09.00 3641.2 down 1.4 12.00 3626.8 down 15.8 16.00 3592.3 down 50.3 10.00 3630.4 down 12.2 13.00 3627.2 down 15.4 Clase 3596.1 down 46.5 DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS ENGINEERING VEHICLES

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# Dunwoody on a high back from the edge

It was horsemanship that would have been appreciated from the Calgary stampede to Argentina's polo fields and the Cossack plains of old Russia.

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When Richard Dunwoody forced Unguided Missile's lolling head in front on the line at Ascot on Saturday it com-pleted a ride that was a triumph for all that the jockey had learned in his years in the saddle. It was also victory for the renaissance Dunwoody, who has locked away the stern figure of old for a more joyous ex-

Balance has long been the Ulsterman's greatest ally, and he employed this to maximum effect on Saturday when Unguided Missile negotiated the last open ditch as tanks used to take on hedges in northern France: Dunwoody maintained the partnership before achieving the greatest escape since our chaps started depositing earth down the inside of their

"Someone said I'd lost an knuckles of the an inch round in, but I hadn't, otherwise I'd have fallen off," be recalled. What happened was that the saddle slipped quite badly and if it had stayed where it was, down on one side, I would have pulled up. But I was going so well that I was able to spend a few strides using my body weight to get it back into place, but I only got it back to a certain extent."

partner, who slipped and adopted the posture of a burrowing rodent. Yet he still got back up Richard Edmondson finds a growing contentment in the champion jockey

to wm, "All credit to the horse," he said, yet all the jockey credits this season bave been flowing the way of Thomas Richard Dunwoody MBE

It seems odd to relate that nearly 12 months ago he was al-most lost to National Himi racing. The self-absorption it takes

edge of the \_ ravine. His body was moaning 'I could get up from the constant wasting, his to a journalist's marriage was in tatters (the bus- weight quickly. band will tell you he was no cherub As it is now, the in this relation-ship) and the bootman told word retirement came flickering me I'd put on into his head.

iron, but I hadn't, otherwise I'd sport's competimy calf muscles' factor this tive element was squeezing the life out of Dunwoody was exem- I'm not rushing around every

plified one January day this year at Uttoxeter, where he ran Luke Harvey, a pal of his, off the track. There followed a 30day suspension and the stirring of unused cogs in Dunwoody's

Dunwoody was therefore ly, a good friend, nan just on hampered over the next two obing a road accident and Dunwoody immersed himself in work for Paddy travel, riding work for Paddy Rudkin in Dubai, and going skiing. When he put the key in the lock on his return home he

found, for the first time in his sporting life, that there was no immediate urge to get equip-ment out and ready himself for competition.

Dunwoody decided to trim the schedule, expand his waist and, most staggeringly of all, reing. The self-absorption it takes to become a champion jockey had taken Dunwoody to the virtually handcuffed to the jock-

eys' champihad it in the back of my mind for a few years to stick up the weight and ride more ed," he said. "It just came round sooner than I'd anticipated.

The one

that helps is that your best if you're doing it day in day out, wasting and getting falls. How could you physically be at your best in that situation? To be champion jockey

you can't ride like I am. "I could get up to a journalist's weight very quickly and, as I'd put on an extra inch round my calf muscles when he was measuring me up for this year." The result of the new regime has been staggering. While

a fourth championship this sea-son he has become the man to follow blindly in the neon events. If the 0898 or hopeful envelope brigades need a system to advocate it should be to follow Durwoody's Saturday special. Before this weekend he had recorded memorable successes on the Irish-trained Sound Man and Merry Gale.

His decision to return more regularly to his homeland has coincided with an era when the leaves are returning to a once near-barren tree of the sport over the water. "I like having winners in Ireland and there are decent horses these days, he said. "There are as many owners over there now in search of a top-class horse as in England, if not more. The Irish scene on the whole is pretty healthy."

The impact of these winning moments is also evident. In days before, Dunwoody fin-ished a job, even a winning one. with the look of a drained commuter propped up by fellow travellers in a tube train. Now each victorious ride appears to be greeted with a grateful slap day. You can't expect to be at to his conveyance and an expansive smile which shows the damage his trade has done. He looks like Dracula in a hlood

The jockey is too proud a man to concede that this newfound sanguine approach has improved his riding but there it is now, the bootman told me are busloads around to disagree with him. At the age of 31. and finally at peace with himself, many believe Richard Dunwoody is in the best form of his



### Montelado leads discharged **Dobbin rides Man**

Gordon Richards has scotched speculation that Richard Dun-woody will replace his stable lockey. Tony Dobbin, aboard One Man in the King George. VI Chase at Kempton on Box-

Dobbin returned to action at Catterick on Friday after 24 days off with a dislocated shoulder. torn ligaments and a broken bone in his left thumb. He was

victory at Haydock earlier in the month, but yesterday Richards gave Dobbin his full backing. "Tony is fine and is riding at Edinburgh today, and as long as he is 100 per cent fit he will ride One Man," he said. "I have always admired Richard and I have always used him. He has ridden for me for years and can ride for me any time, but I have

always admired Ron Barry and

Dates when the leading Champion Hurdle contenders can be discharged from the casual-ty wards are becoming clearer and it seems that Montelado will be the first one back on track when be runs in the Christmas Hurdle at Kempton next week. Richard Dunwoody, who had been booked to ride Montelado at Fairyhouse this month, when

now and I am looking forward RICHARD EDMONDSON

NAP: Tony's Mist (Southwell 1.45) NB: Airtrak (Southwell 2.15)

to taking him to Kempton. It could be a bot race but we won't sby away from anything

Pat Flynn, Montelado's train-er, said: "Montelado is fine The reigning champion. Alderbrook, is on course to make his return in the Kingwell Hurdle at Wincanton on 22 February, the race in which he

staked his claim for the hurdling crown last season. "He has been cantering for two and a half weeks," Kim Bai-ley, his trainer, said. "While it's

still early days, he seems fine."

Champion Hurdie (12 March): William Hill: 3-1 Alderbrook, 9-2 Montelado, 7-1 Albus, 10-1 Mysiv, 12-1 Forune And Fame, 14-1 Balachar, Moonsh, River North, 16-1 others.

his hopes on an X-ray examination early in the New Year to determine when he can start preparing for a return to the Out of action since breaking

his right femur in a fall at Sedgefield in October, he has been fired by reports on the progress of Alderbrook and his Cheltenham Gold Cup winning ride, Master Oats.

Norman Williamson is pinning

fit as them," Williamson said yesterday, "Everything is going well and I have been cycling in the gym. But only after the leg is X-rayed again will I have a comeback date.

Williamson boost

Williamson plans to spend Christmas in his native Ireland where he has been working as a racing summariser for RTE. As a result he will be at Leopardstown on 28 December round, have every chance of making it through to the next "I wouldn't mind if I was as — to run in the Ericsson Chase.

1.30 THIN RED LINE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV II) £4,550 added 7f (AW)

PUSHIKA FRIRT T Watern 4 9 D R Cochrane 9
RED CHANNEL Y Case, 5 9 0 R Adams 8
C (00030 DESERT WATER (4) 1 Broger 3 8 13 R Julian 7
S 2-02500 SPUMANTE (54) At Maggeroge 3 8 13 R Julian R Hughes 6
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BETTING: 5-2 Fresh Fruit Daily, 4-1 Awasha, 5-1 Bubble Wings, Spumanto, 7-1 Golden Punch, 8-1 Red Channel, 10-1 Desert Water, 16-1 others

2.00 CRIMEA HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,400 added 1m 2f (AW)

- 7 declared -BETTING: 11-4 Pip's Dream, 7-2 Kaofin Homm, 9-2 No Speeches, 5-1 Renoem, 6-1 Burnt Slooms, 8-1 Hard Love, 10-1 Seyaford Flyer.

2.30 ALMA NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2YO 6f (AW)

3.00 SEVASTOPOL APPRENTICE HANDICAP (CLASS G) £3,250 added 1m 5f (AW)

1 006-200 SIR THOMAS BEECHAM (238) (CD) S Dow 5 10 0 ...

4600-1 BROUGHTONS FORMULA (5) (CD) W Musson 5 9 3 (5

# the Second Division.

Equestrianism

**GENEVIEVE MURPHY** 

Hugo Simon's return to the Olympia Show Jumping Champ-ionships, in which he last competed 10 years ago, became even more cuphoric when the 53year-old Austrian gained his third victory of the meeting yesterday.

Simon's win on Gondonso in the Snowman Six Bar was par-ticularly satisfying in that he had never the ridden the horse in a competition until he brought him to this meeting. The eight-yearold jumped the only clear of the contest's fourth round, when the last in a straight line of five fences stood at 6ft 1in. Second place was shared by three riders: Ireland's European champion, Peter Charles, on Blue Bayu. John Whitaker on Everesi Randi and the Dutehman Wout-

Michael Whitaker also extended his tally to three wins vesterday when the remark-able 17-year-old speed specialist. Everest My Mesicur, won again - defeating the Guy Goosen, a 21-year-old

Olympic champion, Ludger Beerbaum, on Sprehe It's Me. Warwickshire rider, had put his name into the record books when winning Sunday night's P&O Events Puissance on Sagrat. In the process he cleared the red wall when it stood at a massive 7ft 4in.

\*THE INDEPENDENT **Horse Racing** Results 0839 - 111 171 Commentary 0839 - 111 175



on the sidelines when Mark Jonjo O'Neill too, and they Dwyer partnered One Man to won't be getting the ride either." SOUTHWELL HYPERION 12.45 ARCTIC LIFE (nap) 2.15 Fixturessecretary 1.15 Cettic Silver 2.45 Dear Do 1.45 Tony's Mist 3.15 Exemplar GOING: Good (Good to Firm in places). Left-hand starp, oval course.

Course is 3m 5E of town and 5m W of Newark at Rolleston. Rolleston Junction station adjoint the course. ADMSSION: Caib \$12; Tattersals \$6 (OAP members of course's Diamond Chib \$4, accompanied under-16s free). GAE PARK: Free.

ELEADING TRAINESS WITH BUNNERS: W Clay — 25 winners from 136 runners gives a species ratio of 19.1% and a profit to a 5.1 keel stake of 543.27; E. Bollinshead — 22 winners, 100 runners, 22.1%, -541.03; J. Harris — 22 winners, 139 runners, 15.8%, -518.67; M Pipe — 17 winners, 73 runners, 23.3%, -529.63.

15.8%, -\$18.57; M-Pipe — 17 winners, 73 runners, 23.3%, -\$29.63.

\*\*\*LEADING JOCKETS: \$ Wyane — 19 winners, 107 rides, 17.8%, -\$57.90; A Maguire — 18 winners, 70 rides, 25.7%, +\$0.06; E Duarwoody — 16 winners, 50 rides, 25.4%, -\$4.16; P Nivon — 15 winners, 50 rides, 25.4%, -\$3.20.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: NonLONG-HISTANCE ZUNNERS: Lord Gianvara (1.45) has been sent 187 miles by 7 McGovern from Lewes, E Sussey, Startlight Piper (1.46) sent 184 miles by J Long from Pampon Green, E-Sussey, Cooling (1.16) & Herbert Buchanau (2.45) sent 178 miles by P Nicholis from Dacheas, Somenset.

12.45 WATERLOO "NATIONAL HUNT" NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,800 added 2m Penalty Value £2,285 -3 declared -BETHNS: 7-4 Arctic Life, 3-1 frond Outlook, 5-1 Pageses Boy, 5-1 Cathy Hang, 7-1 Uncle Bert,

1994: so corresponding meeting

ARCTIC LIFE had shown promise prior to his 10-length success in a Towcester nowce handteap, whereas Broad Outlook had achieved very little before her 50-1 win at Cattench, Antic Life's win is not outstanding, as he beer only places and was almost a tracen lengths
back in lourith behind ismen on a return visit to Towcester, but that was a better race, as
wes the form of his win, compared with Broad Outlook's. The other good thing is that Anvic Life escapers a penalty as he won a race for conditional jockeys. Usele Bart stread the
season with a promising fourth behind the useful Neat Fest in a Sandown bumper and was
only two lengths admit of Arctic Life, who, nevertheless, played a far more prominent role
when mind of 25 to Cool Rumer at Wordster last month on his handing debut. Just as
Arctic Life did, Unde Bert should come on for the expensive and looks good sach-way at
least in a weak race. Pegasus Bay had plenty of expectance in bumpers before hishing
sight of 12 behind Castic Sweep in a decent novice hundle at Nottingham, Life Unde Bert,
he will improve for the run, a remark to also applies to Castily Hang, third in a big field of
bumpers at Nottingham last season.

Selections ARCTIC LIFE.

1.15 TRAFALGAR NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £4,000 acided 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £2,846

1.45 MARSTON MOOR SELLING HARDLE (CLASS F) £2,600 added 2m Penalty Value £2,140 

the talented but injury-plagued horse was pulled out because of a cold, will be in the plate.

= 13 doctored -BETTING: 5-2 Tony's Mist, 3-1 Lord Stomotre, 9-2 Master Gien, 6-1 Vingajo, 7-1 Manife Bay, 14-1
Drawn Start, 16-1 others FORM GUIDE.

Master Glein drops back to two miles after feding to get home when a well-beaten third to Edward Seymour at Leicester (2m 4f 110yds) 1.9 days ago, it may be that he id on the way back to form, but TONY'S MIST is running as well as he can at present and looks to have found the right opportunity at leat. He certainly gave previous winner Star-Polatidh a scare in a Ludiow cleimer earlier in the month and Friday's third to Erking at Hereford was in a better setter than this. Lord Gleinware was no major for Head For Heaven and Clowder Lady at Forthwell first time but wanner and second are decent platter in comparison to most of today's mals. He was a Forthwell witner in October and should not be too for away. Viaggio was beaten a long way from home at Leicester last time and Timely Example holds a much better chance on his head second to Emigooon in a Hereford seller back in April, Selections TONY'S MIST.

2.15 HASTINGS NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 3m 110yds Penalty Value £3,054 053-F51. ARTIRAN (19) (D) (Arranh, Espress Parcels Lish N Henderson 6 11 6 ... 3 DARLETFORDERAY (20) (Roong Club NCB K Bulley 6 11 D ... 2PY22-8 FACTOR TERN (25) Portions Crops Lemied Meas H Holgis 7 11 0 ... 3200-32 FOR

O- LUCKY LANDING (264) (Lady D Powerl) R Prillips 8 11 0..... SETTINE: 7-4 Airtrals, 9-4 Philippessecretary, 3-1 Factor Yen, 9-2 Derleylorithay, 25-1 Locky Landing. 23-1 Lone Venture

Though not always fluent, FDCTURESSECRETARY negotiated the stiff Chetenham fences in one piece when third to the filter Rivele Bleu on his chasing elbut test month and was then staying on in the closing stages when chasing home impressive winner Challenger Du Luc at Lacoster. Soot those rices were over two and a half miles and he can improve on those two promising runs over this more suitable three. Having fallen at Cheltenham lest morth on his first attempt over fences and then made mistakes at Wincariton, it was non-in that Albrah, was one of only two to jump round safely when winning at Lalcester. There is no question he was budy, but now he has got it toggsher he could go on to better things, the is nicely bred for the job and showed plenty of ability over hundles last season. Factor Test would have reeded his run at Exiter 18 days ago, his first for more time in eyear. He ran better than his tast behalf imboring place suggests and, although he will be much sharper for it, there needs to be a bit of improvement on lest season's two efforts. Lone Versture and Lactey Lending, both lish point-to-point winners in 1994, have not shown a great deal in their limited opportunities in this courtry and, like Darleyfordbay, may need a bit more time. 245 NASEBY HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £4,730 added 2m Penalty Value £3,302

0F50-4 KERRY JANE (113) (F Page) N Babbage 5 10 0. # - B declared - - B declar

1 Kerry Jame

FORM GUIDE

The consistent DEAR DO won with the minimum of flus, at Windsor 19 days ago. He had Driving Force 15 lengths beek, lest of the five finishers and is taken to confirm that form on 7th worse terms, cithough in this small field the margin is not likely to be anywhere near segment. Driving Force has since won at Falsenham, Jason 7titay kicking just in the night time and coming home unchallenged, although he was definitely stopping in the closing states. A this Executive wall have to cover are defined on an on the Co. who has closing. stages. Mick Fitzgerald will have to cover any tauden move on Deer Do, who has clearly improved since spitting James. The First and Cheeks (4th better off for two lengths) here in March. Herbert Bechannen runs here in preference to the novice handloop over four and a half furthings farther. Herbert Buchanan has taken well to fences but his best efforts have a half furiongs farther. Herbert Buchanen niss taken was a manages when besten ally by been when tacking beyond the minimum trip – he made mistakes when besten ally by Somning Steel in a Hereford two-mater – and these more experienced hendicappers may go Selection: DEAR DO.

3.15 AGINCOURT HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 110yds Penalty Value £2,469 

LINGFIELD 12.00 Samwar 12.30 Impington 1.00 Cheeky Chappy 1.30 Fresh Fruit Daily 2.00 No Speeches (nb) 2.30 Time Clash 3.00 Broughtons For-

GOING: Standard, STALLS: 5[ - putside: remainder - inside, IBAW ADVANTAGE: Low.

Left-hand, sharp undulating course, of 11/1 miles.

Course is SE of town on BECCS. Lingfield station (served by London Victoria) adjours course. ADMISSION: Members & IL: Tattersalls & S; Silver Ring & 4. CAR PARK: Club & 3., remainder free,

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Forest Star (2.00).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Monkey Zanty (2.20)
won at Wolverhampton on Tue-day; Broughtons Forumla (3.70)
won bere on Tunsday.
LONG-HISTANCE RUNNERS: Northern Grey (12.00) & Flashing Sabre (1.00) have been sent 268 milers by J Berry from Cockerham, Lancashure. 12.00 THIN RED LINE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) (DIV I) £4,550 added 7f (AW) 605040 ANOTHERONE TO NOTE (39) N Lamagen 4 9 0 ..

9 000 CROWNERG TINO (72) Mr. N. N. N. Scares: 3.8 8. Amelora 3.8 10 LA BORRELA N. Calagrace, 3.8 8. Amelora Sanders (5) 2. 10 LA BORRELA N. Calagrace, 3.8 8. Amelora Sanders (6) 2. 10 declared – 10 declared – BETTING: 11-4 Saumar, 3-1 Erraral, 9-2 Raffles Rouster, 6-1 Considerable Charm, Northern Grey, 12-1 Trapper Norseau, 14-1 others

12.30 LIGHT BRIGADE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,650 added 2YO 5f (AW)

1.00 INKERMAN HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,650 1.00 (NKERMAN HANDECAP (ULASS F) addled: 5f (AW)

1 11:005 SUPER ROCKY (66) (D) R Bacchart 6 10 D.H Bostman (S) 10
2 10:000 PLASHING SABRE (66) (D) J Seny 3 9 13 \_P Roberts (7) 9
3 00:000 Brack (100 100) R D Rockers 3 9 9.0 Bandwell 7
5 00:000 DISTANT DYNASTY (128) (CD) B Pearce 5 9 8... S Sanders 6
6 00:0050 MY BONES (468) (D) D Costpace 5 9 8... S Sanders 6
6 00:0050 MY BONES (468) (D) D Costpace 5 9 8... M Wighton 5
7 00:000 DISTANT DYNASTY (128) (CD) D Captrica 4 9 1.P Peassy (5) 3
8 52:611 (REEN CHAPT (13) (CD) D Captrica 4 9 1.P Peassy (5) 3
9 450:420 MISTER RAIDER (17) S Meto 3 9 1 ... D Wight (3) 2
10 202006 HALBERT (19) (D) P Burgone 6 9 1 ... D Sweeney (TI) 1
—10 declared —10 declared -

BETTING: 7-4 Checky Chappy, 7-2 Spee Rocky, 8-1 Distant Dynasty, 8-1 Call No. 1-1 C

EDINBURGH

Story 7st 3to.
BETTING: 7-2 Broughtons Formula, 4-1 Rose of Glenn, 6-1 Forest Star, 7-2 Call Me Albi, Iron N Gold, 8-1 Mused The Boat, Outstayed Welcome. RACING RESULTS Tote: £4,50; £1,60, £2,30, £1,10, DF: £18,30, CSF: £33,98, Tro: £3,80.

12.15: 1. BLATE AWAY II Osborne: I.-4 tav. 2. Juliusa 16.1: 3. Young Staven 100-1. 15 nm. 15, 10. 0 Barting, Angstere). Toke: £1.90: £1.10.£3.20.£22.10.0F: £5.70. CSP: £6.81. 3,15: 1. LORD FORTUNE (P Niven) 4-1: 2. Direct Route 15-8; 3. Adametic 5-4 tev. 7 ran, 4, 2½: (M Hammond, Middleham). Tota: £4,10; £2,30, £1,80, DF: £5,00, CSF: 7no: £257.50 (part won; pool of £79.90 car-ned forward to Lingfield 3.00 today). 1000: 10.100, 11.20. Placepot: £6.40. Place 6: £5.38. Place 5: £4.36. 12.45; 1. HIS WAY () Osborne: 7-4 lav. LINGFIELD

12.45: 1. HtS WAY U Obsome 7-4 lar; 2. Pagitacio 2-1; 3. Nilimor Lad 3-1. 5 rad. 8, dsi. U Houard Jornson. Crook, Tota: 12-90: £1.40, £1.50. Dr: £3.10. CSP: £5.66

1.15: 1. BRACKENTHWAITE IT Callagnani 11-4 for; 2. Punny Rose 9-2; 3. Perny Pt. 16-1. 12 ran. 45, 15. 0. Linyd-James, Meltoni, Tota: £3.00; £2.40, £1.20, £5.70. Dr. £5.30. OSF: £14.74. Tricast: £15.15.4. Tro: £171.60 (part wor; poot of £145.09 carred toward to Lingfield 3.00 todays. 1.45: 1. SNAARRO (10 Shores) 6-4 for; 2. 12.00: 1. TOTAL RACH (W Woods) 7-1; 2. Watch Me Go 8-1: 3. Bakers Doughter 16-1.12 nm. 9-4 to Winnern, 3½: nh. (R Ingam, Fisherton). Tota: £6.70; £2.30, £4.40, £13.30. DF: £80.40, CSF: £65.48. Incast: £822.36. Tho: £143.30 (per wor; pool of £20.19 carried forward to Lingfield 3.00 to-12.30: 1. GI LA HIGH (A McGione) 13-2:

1.45: 1. SHAARID (J Osborne) 6-4 fav; 2. Porttan 9-2; 3. Rapid Mover 14-1. 6 ran. 3/:, 1. It Balding, Kingsclere). Tota: £2.50; £1.80. £4.10. DF: £8.50. CSF: £8.12. 2. Lady Esist 5-2 fa; 3. Charterhouse Xpres 9-2 9 sm, 1½, sh-hd. (J Berry, Cookerham). Tota: 15-50; £1.30, £1.50, £2.00, 0F; £8.50. CSF: £22.75. 2.15: 1. MASTER OF THE ROCK IE Husbend) 11:8 far; 2. Shannon Gian 16:1; 3. Tallywagger 15:8. 5 ran. 6. 6. U Masue, Church Broughou). Totte £2 50; £1.40, £3.30. DF: £30.30. CSF: £16 57.

1.00: 1. STALLED (Marchioness Blandford) 9-2: 2. Manful 5-2 faz: 3. Kenyatta 20-1. 13 ran. Hd, 6. IP Watwyn, Lambourni, Totas: 57.00: 51.90, £1.30, £5.50. DF: £7.60. CSP: £16.02. 12.30.Trlg: £21.90. 2.45: 1. GRAND SCENERY (f.4ss P.lones) 6-1; 2. Micray Rose 5-1; 3. Donford Hut 4-6 fev. 9 res. 11/4, 13. U H Johnson, Crookj. 1.30: 1. RED RUSTY (J Late) 4-1: 2. Sah-ber 2-1 fav; 3. Well Drawn 9-4. 9 ran. 2.

sht-hd. (D Morris, Newmarket). **Tota:** £4.10: £1.60, £1.40, £1.10. OF: £5.00. GSF £12.70. Tho: £3.50. 2.00: 1. ROBO MAGIC (J F Egan) 9-2; 2

Southern Dominion 8-1; 3. Pathy 9-2; 2 Southern Dominion 8-1; 3. Pathy Grimor 11-2. 10 ren. 4-1 tay Halt Tone (8th). 1/4 1-/4. III Mortague Hall, Epsamy, Tota: 17-90 22.60. £3.10, £2.80. DF: £33.60 CSF £38.86. Trasst £188.56. Tras: £92.00. 2.30: 1 WET PATCH (R Hughes) 9-2; 2 Explosive Power 10-1; 3. Real Madrid 9-1. 13 ran. 4-1 for Rival Bd (4m), 14-, 3, R Hannon, East Everlegh), Tota; £7,10; £2,40, £4-20,£3,80, DF; £24,30, CSF; £52,35, Incast: £376.17.

3.00: 1. APARTMENTS ABROAD UF Egany 3-1: 2. Shemango 13-8 tx; 3. Note of Cau-tion 5-1. 9 ran. Hd, 2. (K McAunife, Lem-bourn). Total: £4.40; £1.80; £1.30; £1.50. DF: £3.60. CSF: £8.92. Tro: £4.10. 3.30: 1. DUKE VALENTINO IM Wigham! 5-1 ji fav. 2. Saag Star 10-1; 3. Present Shuation 12-1. 15 ran. 5-1 ji tov Anzo. 34. 1. IR Hollinshead, Uppur Longdon, Tode 57.40; 62-90, 15-60, 62-90, DF 574-40. CSF 157-29. Troast 1545-94. NR. Ablad. 7no: 4562.50. Tho: £38.40 Jackpot: not won ipool of £6,886.15 carned forward to Lingfield today). Quadpot: £13 80.

Placepor: £175.00. Place 6: £188.20. Place 5: £30.87

**Rugby League** DAVE HADFIELD Maurice Lindsay, the chief executive of the Rugby League, has been elected as the first chairman of the Super League International Board. Lindsay was named as the inaugural holder of a highly influential office at the meeting at which the new board was formed in Sydney this weekend. The former Wigan chairman, chief executive of the game in Britain for three years, was

widely tipped to take on the new role. The only individual of comparable stature, the Australian John Ribot, is Super League's first chief executive officer. Lindsay, who will also be the British delegate, will retain his role as chief executive of the British game, slihough the two

functions will clearly overlap to a large extent. "I am absolutely thrilled and delighted with the appointment," Lindsay said. Having spent a lifetime in the game and been so heavily involved in international rugby league for so many years, I am very excited. John and I share the

same values and belief that our game has been world sport's best kept secret for far too long." The formation of the new board pushes the Australian Rugby League, with which Super League in Australia is locked in a legal battle, further into isolation. Among the functions of the

new body will be controlling the laws of the game, including de-ciding whether the changes heing tried in Britain will be adopted by Super League-aligned nations worldwide. The Pennine League side, West Bowling, who produced the shock of the second round of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup on Saturday by beating one of the leading amateur clubs, Wigan St Patricks, have been re-warded with a trip to Carlisle in the third round. The round, the first stage at which Second Division professional clubs

Doncaster going to Barrow, West Hull, who beat Blackround in which the big gains make their first appearances. They have been drawn to play at Highfield, the bottom club in

enter the competition, features

one all-professional lie, with

### Gondonso gives Simon three in a row

Jan van der Schans on Elpasja.

Stoner: Brandryssen/Helpinie (17) 485 9064 Calls charged at 70p per tale cheap mic, 45p per non at all after tones

# sport

# Nigel Starmer-Smith and Bill Beaumont in tandem are a disgrace because of the tone of unremitting English chauvinism

Rereading Jack Rowell's comments being an altogether more sensitive before and after Saturday's match. being an altogether more sensitive soul. "Love me" he seems to cry. I am beginning to wonder whether he is the man for the job. This is not. I should make clear at the outset, primarily a question of England's performance under his stewardship - though that certainly comes into it. It is more a matter of the way in which he regards his post.

He seems to think of himself as running an amateur team for the love of it, and to want to be judged accordingly. He wishes the team to be judged similarly. Paradoxically, his predecessor Geoff Cooke fitted more comfortably into the mould of a professional manager: somewhat taciturn; very much a players' man; unemotional, at any rate on the

Rowell gives the impression of duce the goods.

"Or. if you cannot bring yourselves to do that, then at least try to understand?

It would not be much good to anybody if a surgeon, say, carried on in this way. We should not place great trust in an airline pilot who sent out a similar message to his passengers in mid-flight. Rowell himself would not have expected charity in those assessing the commercial performance of Daigety Foods when he was part of the higher direction of that enterprise.

Rugby union football is not like a commercial firm. But it is more like one than it was at the beginning of the season. It is not entitled to automatic loyalty if it does not pro-

booing of Paul Grayson when he was about to take his umpteenth penalty kick at goal. But it was not Grayson that was being booed. Nor was it - as some commentators have suggested - the whole England performance thus far, disappointing though this had been. It was rather the correct decision, which was Will Carling's responsibility, to take a kick at goal rather than a tapped penalty

I have heard booing at Twickenham in the same circumstances on previous occasions, notably when Japan played an England XV some years ago. In that match the sound, accompanied by idiotic cries of "run it", derived from a contempt for the visiting side. On Saturday



would see something of what they had paid for. In this sense the English performance was indeed being

Rowell had better become used to the noise. It will recur, even if the hooers' hope was that they England play better than they did

they are at La Scala, Milan. And. for another, the crowds who now assemble at Twickenham to belt out God Save The Queen and Swing Low, Sweet Chariot - more convincingly, it must be said, than my fellow-countrymen now render their own balf-remembered hymns - these - but, rather, because of the seem to have only the haziest acquaintance with the game. Just as they do not realise that it is criminal to throw away three points, so they cannot understand the new put-

But, whether the sport is professional or not, one has always been entitled to expect professional standards from television commentators, and to criticise through it.

Nigel Starmer-Smith and Bill Beaumont in tandem are a disgrace. They are so not because of technical errors on their part, whether to do with rugby or broadcasting skills - and there are certainly a few of tone of unremitting English chau-vinism which they feet constrained to adopt. They are reminiscent of British Movietone or Pathe newsreaders of the 1940s and early

No one watching Saturday afternoon's broadcasts who was uninformed about rugby, as many viewers were, would have under-

against Western Samoa. For one them accordingly. They are being just how badly England were pertaining, the audience are as entitled paid for their work, even if they do forming. "He'll be a hit disappointed with that one," was the furthest Beaumont was prepared to go in adverse criticism.

Nor am I at all happy about the use of Rob Andrew as a summariser. Not only is he yet a third English voice. He is up to his cychails in the contemporary game, both as a player and as a manager,

Andrew is a nice chap, a distinuished player and - let there be no doubt about it - a person of the utmost integrity. That is not the point. The point is that someone employed by the BBC to do his kind of job must not only be above the present battle cours properties. present battle, over payments, contracts, player-poaching and the rest of it. He must manifestly be seen to be above the battle.

# **S** Africans **put Adams** on agenda

Cricket

**DEREK PRINGLE** reports from Durban England 152-5 Match drawn

Nothing much stirred here yesterday, as further torrential rain brought a sodden and premature end to the third Test. With more rain forecast over the next few days, farmers have already moved their cattle to higher ground, a position that might save England's next three-day game inland at Pietermanitzburg, scheduled to start tomorrow.

After two years of drought, the non-stop rain is causing havoc. With widespread flooding making major roads impassable, this mecca for holidaymakers has. ironically, become as isolated as a desert island.

It wouldn't have come as much of a surprise had South Africa's selectors decided that the quickest way to inform Paul Adams of his selection for the last two Tests was to pop a message into a corked bottle, toss it from Durban pier, and let the what this series and this country tides take it round to Cape

Holding a Test series in the rainy season is bound to cause disenchantment, especially from those overseas fans not over in time for the five days of good weather in Johannesburg. Bad luck perhaps, but have the organisers not also been negligent to some extent in organising the hulk of the Test series at this time of year?

As most climatologists will tell you, South Africa - bar the Cape - receives most of its rainfall in summer. Cricket is therefore at risk, though much of the rain comes in the form of thundery showers, which rarely last long. The widespread frontal rain, which obliterated the first Test at Centurion Park as well as the match here, can last for days and is far more unusual.

> TODAY'S NUMBER

38,000

The players the Rugby Football Union expects to lose from its register by bringing its paper-work up to date. The RFU, which has 108,000 players on its books, aims to reduce that figure to 70,000. The present list is thought to contain a num-ber of dead players.

For some reason, given the distances involved, experts believe it is due to a weakening of the "El Nino" effect, which occurs in the Pacific Ocean. "The Child" as it is also known, owing to its five to seven-year cycles, is a series of warm currents that can apparently have widespread effect on the world's weather

But if local experts blame it for causing recent drought over here, Raymoud Illingworth has no such grudge. As news filters through that water is being tankered in to Farsley to ease shortages, he was placing the blame firmly on Yorkshire Water. There are few things as precious to the England chairman as his beloved lawn which, deprived of months of water. now bears little resemblance to the photographs he has of it in his wallet.

However, with two Tests to go, and only one win needed for either side to gain an infallible position, England, if not fear-ing the departure of "The Child", would do well to heed the arrival of the teenager. Paul have been crying out for since their return to the internation-

Despite being a fillip for all those involved in development programmes throughout South Africa, it is a timely affirmation to those doubters in the coloured and black communities, still pessimistic about the prospects and pace of real

If he plays in the fourth Test he will be, at 18, South Africa's youngest ever Test player, beating A E Ochse who had just turned 19 when he played two matches against England in 1888-89. South Africa have also picked the slow left-armer Nicky Boje, but all indications are that Adams will be the front-line spinner, the convener of selectors. Peter Pollock, indicating as much when he said: "It wasn't a gamble. We picked him because he fits into our plans at Port Elizabeth. We feel he'll get the ball past the bat."

Responding to the South Africans bold move, England announced that Phillip DeFreitas, now almost 30, would be joining the team in the new year for the seven-match series of one-dayers that begin after the Cape Town Test. It is a sensible move and one that should have been done far earlier. DeFreitas may have lost a bit of nip in his bowling but he is a brilliant fielder and useful lower-order striker in limited



# Controversial Englishmen abroad

In the East Stand of the Kingsmead cricket ground in Durban two Santas sporting Union Jack capes, sunburned stomachs and Castle Lagers leap up to beat bongo drums and sing the England football supporter's anthem "Let's all have a disco".

In response, the hank of about 100 Africans to whom they are performing break into a chorus of the traditional Zulu song Shosholoza. The Santas quickly become their conductors. Spectators in other parts of the stand join in until the singing ends in fits of laughter and the Santas conga off in

search of more lager. For the Santas it is just another day at the cricket as part of the self-styled "Barmy Army" following England's progress throughout South Africa. For the English cricket establishment it is typical of one of the most embarrassing things to happen to the game in years.

Even the torrential rain has not stopped them. They huddle under the stands for a while and then head for the down-town bars to enjoy themselves.

Formed during last winter's Ashes tour of Australia by a group of 40 like-minded cricket fans travelling on a tight budget, the Barmy Army have quickly become a phenomenon. Usually no more than 50 or 60 in number, but stronger in voice with their incessant chants of "En-Ger-Land," and "Give Us A Wave Thorpy, Jacky etc", they have established themselves as an unmistakable

feature of England matches. While much of the English media has tended to dismiss them as little more than football hooligans, the local Durban press and television were last week full of features on the friendly inva-

son of the city's beach-front bars
by the colourful England fans
making the most of a favourable
exchange rate.

The all-drinking all-chanting
football-shirted Barmy Army
members have found it a difficult contradiction to live with. Dave Peacock, 28, the "General" and driving force of the Army, insists there is nothing sinister in the drunken flag waving and singing that have be-come the Army's trademark.

The Barmy Army, first seen in Australia last year, have invaded South Africa. Despite their image, they are a force for good, says John Cassy in Durban

"We're not hooligans and To say we are is rubbish. Most of us are professional people there are civil servants,

laugh like anyone else." In Durban, the nearest they come to confrontation is when they turn in unison to chant. "We're going to nick your sweets and folloops" at a group of children beating drinks cans against the advertising boardings in time with the bowler's steps. Instead of being met by parental anger and reproach, what they got was a whirring of Dad's camera and squeals of delight from the children

For Allan Freeman, a 41we're not out to cause trouble. year-old from Leicester who

takes temporary jobs between tours, this sort of reaction is indicative of the reception the solicitors, policemen in our ranks -who have saved hard or the grassy banks there's lots of given up our jobs to come away.
Nearly all of us are members of county clubs and keen players too. Basically we're just out to watch the cricket and have a even offers a year's supply of beer for the best banner of the day. Yet in England we're still

told it's not cricket," he says. However for Peacock, one year on since taking voluntary redundancy from National Power to follow the Ashes tour, the Barmy Army is now about much more than just atmosphere and having a laugh. The small group of friends has evolved to become a limited company selling a variety of trademarked accommodation and match tickets. Its organiwhich he estimates will cost him

three months.

The massive Barmy Army Tshirt sales that have accompanied the group's rise are an indicator of its popularity. More than 10,000 have been sold since the first few were printed in Australia last year and, with nearly 5,000 England supporters expected at the final Test in Cape Town in the New Year, Peacock is anticipating another

surge in sales.
"The demand for the shirts has been incredible", he says. "We've sold them through the individual cricket unions and have had all sorts of people buying them, including South Africans, Kiwis and Aussics. Even some of the more established English guys on the traditional tours have

bought them."
The decision to start organising package tours was not taken lightly but Peacock says there is a big market to be ex-

sation now occupies most of his time and will subsidise his trip, land abroad but have never had the opportunity because of the in the region of £2,500 for three months.

The massive Barmy Army T
The m understone s

About 40 people are booked on to the first official Barmy Army package-tour which takes in the Port Elizabeth and Cape Town Tests after Christmas. The emphasis will be on budget travel and having a good time: accommodation will be in £4.50 a night backpacker hostels or university digs, transport will be laid on and heavy nights will be de rigeur. The total package will undercut some of the more established equivalent tours by

between £500 and £1,000. Add to this a scheme that donates one rand to Soweto Cricket Club for every Barmy Army T-shirt sold on the tour, and a friendly fixture at the Soweto Oval scheduled for mid-January, and it seems the Barmy Army is, in its own way, quickly becoming an estab-lished part of England Test ploited. "Cricket's still an es- cricket. Whether it will ever be tablishment game and there are a universally accepted part is an-loads of cricket faus who have other matter.

### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Achievement is one thing: but only when there is warmth of character to go with it does a performer win lasting public affection. For Mary Peters, BBC Sports Personality of 1972, the award recognised her Olympic pentathlon gold but reflected, too, a sunny disposition and that uncommonly wide smile.

She remembers the ceremony as vividly as her 1972 Munich victory. "I didn't know I'd won the award but the first three were tipped off so we Council, she is on the women's comwould be ready to say a few words mittee of the International Arnateur vious year's winner," Peters recalled. the Northern Ireland Tourist Board, "I said, "Hasn"t she kept it clean?" president of the Ulster Sports and

gold. She has since exploited her wind down, " she said. popularity with the best possible mo- Single and 56 - 7 never had time tives, raising money first to build the to get married - she is based near Mary Peters Track and then lend- Belfast at Lisbum, where she has ing support to numerous causes. run a thriving health club since 1977. A former member of the Sports



Mary Peters

in front of Princess Anne, the pre- Athletic Federation, is a member of and people still remember that." Recreation Trust, president of the Born in Liverpool but brought up Northern Ireland Lady Taverners and in Northern Ireland, Peters retired compaigns for concer and brittle two years later, after the 1974 Com- bone disease charities. "I'm happy monwealth Games brought more with my lot and I have no plans to

### Knight sets up series win

England A 190-3 England A win by seven wickets

An unheaten 90 from the Nasser Hussain, who scored opener Nick Knight helped secure victory for England A over Pakistan A in the second one-day international in Paisal-

abad yesterday. A seven-wicket victory also clinched the one-day series 2-0 with one match still to play. England also won the threematch Test series 1-0.

England bowled and fielded better than in their first 40-over match, restricting the Pakistanis to a 186 for 6 on a flat, low pitch which offered little help to the The opener Shahid Anwar

batted through the innings but his runs dried up towards the end as Richard Stemp, Ronnie Irani and Dean Headley kept

England's reply began with Knight being dropped off the second ball. He then picked up two leg-side sixes and put on 110 in 21 overs with the fluent Azhar Mehmood b Heedley 50 off only 67 balls. Alverti Reze not out ... Extras (\$5, v1, nt2) \_\_

"Now we've won the one-day series as well it will be hard to fully motivate the lads for the final match but it would be nice to go through the tour unbeat-en," Hussain, the captain, said. The Hampshire spinner Shaun Udal is returning home early from the tour after his.

month-old daughter was taken ill. The tourists, who play their final one-day game tomorrow, are due to return home on Friday but Udal was given permission to fly out early after his daughter was taken into hospital. "It's only a precaution but Shaun understandably feels he wishes to be with his family,"
Tim Lamb, the TCCB
spokesman said.

# Stahld Anuer not out. Yshekeel Ahmed c Piper b Godins ... Igz Ahmed Anior c Kreint b Godins ... Rez Ahmed Anior c Kreint b Godins ... Mansoor Rans c Kreint b Stamp ... Zahd Fest live b White ... Anne Melanent b Mene

Total (for 6, 40 overs)\_ FeR: 2-17, 2-28, 3-108, 4-112, 5-132, 6-180. Old not bet: Sherid Nazir, Saiman Fazal, Ali Bevrling Munton 8-1 22-0; Giddins 8-1-28-2; Stemp 8-0-38-2; Hearley 8-0-42-1; Ironi 4-0-19-0; White 4-0-34-1 ENGLAND A

Extras (03, v5) ..... Total (for 3, 38.3 overs) . Feft: 1-48, 2-158, 3-175.
Did not best: C Write, TK / Piper, D W Headley, R D Stemp, E S H Glodins, T A Munton. Bowling: Stanid Nazir 7-0-29-0; All Gener 4-0-24-0; Acher Mehmand 7-3-2-33-2; Alvam Raze 6-0-25-0; Asif Mujtaba 3-0-17-0; Shahid Anwar 5-0-30-0; Zenid Fazel 6-0-

Umpires: Man Mchimmed Asiam and Fer-oze Butt.

### West Indies 'never this bad'

England may have difficulty Melbourne, the venue for Tues- tourists were humiliated in an filling the No 3 position in the batting order, but that is nothing compared with the problems

Melbourne, the venue for Tuestourists were humiliated in an day's World Series fixture cight-wicket defeat by the Australia compared with the problems to get one score. If we get one young side with virtually no firstfacing the West Indies, for whom things seem to be going from bad to worse.

Their captain, Richie Richardson, who has witnessed an alarming slump culminating in the West Indies' record 121run limited overs defeat in a World Series match against Australia on Sunday, said: "I've never seen it before, I've seen us have one or two bad matches but

never four in a row."

The West Indies top order, weakened by the absence of Brian Lara, has struggled for form since arriving in Australia at the start of the month for the triangular one-day competition, which also features Sri Lanks.

"Our problem is we've got players who are capable, but who have to find form," Richardson told reporters in

to get one score. If we get one score and get our confidence back, the slump in form could mance followed an equally poor be over."

Lara withdrew from the tour after being fined for a breach of discipline during the Test series in England earlier this year. While efforts continued in the West Indies to convince Lara to make himself available for February's World Cup. Richardson said the left-hander would not be recalled for the rest of the current tour. "I just want to concentrate on the

players here, but whatever the problem is I just hope it can be resolved," he said. The dismal performance against Australia at Adelaide Oval on Sunday followed a fourwicket loss to Sri Lanka on the same ground two days earlier.

Australia's media are thoroughly enjoying the West Indies' recent suffering. Typical of their glee was the Sydney Morning Herald newspaper's description of the tourists yesterday morn-

display against a weak New South Wales state side, who were denied victory by rain on

the final day. But Richardson appeared to rule out sweeping team changes for today's encounter with Australia at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

"I don't think a change in the team will solve our problem." he said, adding: "The spirit is good because we're better than what we're showing, and we've just got to turn things around."

In their warm-up games, the

# Club game shoulders the blame

Rugby Union STEVE BALE

o bank

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England's inability to develop the fluid and adventurous rugby about which talk has been cheap was yesterday blamed - as most of England's ills have been over recent years - on the standard of the club rugby which is supposed to prepare players for international matches.

In Jack Rowell's absence another selector, John Elliott, was helatedly summoned to Twickenham yesterday to face a press conference arranged by the Rugby Football Union. Elliott said the widely con-demned performance in beating Western Samoa 27-9 would not deflect Rowell from his ambition to he ambitious. The manager had appeared to sug-gest England would have to revert to more tried, tested and more boring means.

"It's not easy to sit there hearmg the England side booed," Elliott said. "We are looking for a more ambitious game than we have in the past. It is, however, difficult to put that style into practice and it's also not being helped by the fact that a lot of our players in their league clubs are not having the opportunity week-m week-out to play that

Elliott, the RFU's national player development officer and a former England reserve hooker, might have added that such is the way the season is structured most England players had not had the opportunity to play any type of rugby during the four weeks since the defeat by South Africa.

As his eight years as a selector span both the Geoff Cooke and Rowell eras, Elliott will recall Cooke condemning the quality of English club rugby as long ago as the end of the 1990 tour to Argentina, Managers both then and now identified the need for an intermediale level and, though the RFU yeslerday formally announced the abolition of the Divisional Championship, this is not the end of divisional rugby.

Tony Hallett, the RFU secretary, said that as well as the visit already scheduled hy Argentina, there would almost certainly be a second autumn

Test against unnamed opponents - thought to he New Zealand - and there might even he a third. In addition, regular tours by leading southern-hemisphere provincial sides, arranged by the RFU rather than on the present adhoc basis, would begin next

All of which may just help Rowell and Elliott. "With the skills of the players we have, we have to be more patient," Elliott said. "When Geoff came in he was left with such a poor base he literally had to teach players to do certain things.

That includes decisionmaking and I don't think decision-making comes easily to Englishmen. We have to get more decision-makers, partic-

be taken is whether the member clubs of the RFU will go along with the International Board by abandoning the word amateur. this still needs doing, hut the at least bave the unanimous reccommittee to accept the fait

Hallett and the union's president, Bill Bishop, said yester-day that they did not anticipate a small clubs' uprising. "If there were a backlash from the grass roots we would be in some trouble," Bishop said, "I don't want to be the president when this great union breaks

Mark Ring, the former Wales midfield player, has with-drawn from his transfer to West Hartlepool after accepting a job as a development officer with Cardiff. The Welsh champions have appointed Terry Holmes, the former scrum-half, as senior coach in succession to Alex Evans, who has gone home to be coaching director of the Australian Rugby Union.

### **Brawl on ice comes** under police scrutiny

ice hockey

STEVE PINDER

ner hart

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Part of

V. 750

Police investigations into the brawl between Durham Wasps and Sheffield Steelers have put the British Ice Hockey Associ-

ation's response on ice.

Durham Wasps' 6-6 draw
against Sheffield Steelers was overshadowed by an incident half-way through the game when Wasps' Ross Lambert received an eye mjury after a clash with Steelers' Nicky Chinn. Lambert needed nearly 20 stitches and Chinn was thrown out of the game. He was then questioned by local police and released on bail with any deci-

sion on charges to be taken in the New Year.

Chinn, dismissed for excessive rough play, is automatically banned for three matches and the British Ice Hockey Association will decide on any further disciplinary action after the police have made their decision.

Given that Durham Wasps' Rick Brehant was recently banned for 12 matches after a clash left his opponent oceding extensive mouth-stitching, it is unlikely the punishment will be less. It could be considerably more given that the loss of an eye through a stick wielded in anger could have ended Lam-

ularly at Nos 8, 9 and 10." One decision that will soon

It may come as a surprise to find special general meeting in Birmingham on 14 January will ommendation of the RFU

derstandably nowhere to be This year of 1995 has been one to drive the best adjusted Cleveland sports fan into the arms of his psychiatrist. Just two months ago there was the jovous spectacle of the Indians, baseball's elernal laughing

stock, turning history on its head and reaching the World Series for the first time in 40

Browns hric-a-brac. But who Just possibly Congress will pass

wants to huy a dead man's a proposed "Fan Protection

fore the game started, instead

memorative seal. When it was

over, out on the Dawg Pound

bleachers where the fans are the

fiercest and the winds from

Lake Eric the most frigid, they

let off firecrackers and hurled

rows of ancient wooden seats on

to the field. And everyone

wanted to get their hands round

the throat of Art Modell, own-

er of the Browns, betrayer of the

entire city of Cleveland, and un-

room for romance - the team goes where the money is. Rupert Cornwell reports of tearing tickets ushers stamped them with a comclothes? The Cleveland Browns, part of the landscape of northeffect. The Cleveland city em Ohio for half a century. among the oldest, most famous and well supported franchises in the National Football League are leaving town - uprooted by their owner and the irresistible appeal of mega-bucks in Baltimore. Such though is the norm

in this era of the wandering US

major league sports franchise. On Sunday the Browns played their 344th and almost certainly their last game at Cleveland's Municipal Stadium. that gelid sandstone cavern better known as the Mistake By The Lake, lovable precisely because it was so awful. The game was an all-Ohio affair against the Cincinnati Bengals. For the record the Browns won 26-10, their first win in six games since ous disbelief, terminal despair, timore. Theoretically, NFL Sporting goods stores across owners could veto the move the city are knee deep in unsold when they meet next month.

fathers, meanwhile, are taking Modell to court in a last ditch effort to make him honour a lease which runs until 1998. In fact, however, it will take

Act "that would have the same

Some wept. Others cursed. Be- America's major sports are at the mercy of the franchise owners and there is no

not an Act of Congress but an Act of God to prevent the Browns from becoming merely the latest casualties of the demented but ruthless sporting economics that are sending tremors through the established orders of not just American football, but hockey and baseball as well. Art Modell claims to lose more than \$10m (£6m) a year on the Browns at antitimore however has virtually guaranteed him annual profits revenues to be generated from of \$30m - not to mention the the \$100,000-a-year skyboxes for state of Maryland. A generous Last month, the city approved

ing costs. And there is nothing Cleveland can do about it. Forget Senators, Congress

men and the mightiest big city mayor. They are putty in the hands of the true dictators of modern America, the owners of the major league sports franchises. The reason is quite simple: there are too few learns for the cities that would like to have one. Hence a bidding war and from the owners' point of view. the seller's market to end them

No matter that week in, week out for five decades, 70,000 Clevelanders have turned out on Sunday afternoons to cheer quated Municipal Stadium. Bal-the Browns. Such loyalty counts as nothing against the huge privilege of playing in a brand-corporate dignitaries, with

Municipal Stadium, A couple of days earlier, Modell had signed up with Baltimore.

There is at least a certain rough justice in the destination. Back in 1984 Baltimore was at the wrong end of its own team relocation, which hit home like this one - when the Baltimore Colts were moved, literally overnight, to Indianapolis, Now such moves threaten to hecome commonplace. "If the Browns can go, then no pro-fessional sports team is safe, in-sists Michael White. Cleveland's Mayor, with some justification.

As the final whistle sounded in Cleveland and Browns players ran over to salute the Dawg Pound faithful a final time, the Houston Oilers were playing perhaps their final NFL game at the ageing Astrodome before \$200m bill is being footed by the essarily bristles. Too late did switching to Nashville, where a one, their rumoured destination taxpayers of Baltimore and the Cleveland wake up to the fact. state of the art \$290m arena awaits. The Tampa Bay Buccabridging loan from a local bank a \$175m "sin tax" on alcohol neers and Arizona Cardinals they won't be the Browns, But is even taking care of the mov- and cigarettes, to modernise may be on the move as well. In at least it is a team.

hockey, teams from Winnipeg and Quebec have migrated south of the 49th parallel. And only an anti-trust exemption dating from 1922 prevents a complete redrawing of the baseball map.

The Housion Astros, the Pittsburgh Pirates and the Minnesota Twins are among teams which would move if they could. Indeed, the Astros ownership had signed away the team to a North Virginia investors' group. before the deal was vetoed by the league. Even the most famous franchise of them all. the New York Yankees, could be in danger. George Stein-brenner, the Yankees' owner. threatens to take the team from Yankee Studium in the Bronx, its home for 72 years, to the richer pastures of New Jersey unless he gets a new arena - paid for, naturally, by the taxpayer,

But even for Cleveland, all is not lost. The Bengals are said to be angling for a new stadium in Cincinnati. If they do not get is ... Cleveland. Enter therefore

# Switzer taking centre stage in Dallas drama

Browns' move catches the modern mood

After the fortnight he's had, Barry Switzer was grateful just to win, but Sunday's defeat of the New York Giants will do little to calm the clamour in Dallas. True the Cowboys ended a two-game losing streak with a 21-20 victory. but it needed a Chris Boniol field goal as time ran out to do so, and the feeling grows that Switzer's side, overwhelming favourites to win the Super Bowl six weeks ago, remain in something approaching crisis.

To put some perspective on the scoreline it should be remembered that the Giants had been thrashed at home by the Cowboys on the opening day of the season, since when they have posted another eight defeats, a dismal return that has put their head coach Dan Reeves's job in

severe jeopardy.

However the Cowboys have began to look vulnerable since the defeat by the San Francisco 49ers a month ago, with Switzer widely blamed for the losses. The Giants threatened a third in a row, and held the lead for most era to having one of the

American football

ing of Rodney Hampton, who accumulated a career-high 187 yards against a defense that was end of the scale. once thought among the league's

Emmitt Smith managed touchdown, to tie the NFL record for a season at 24, but otherwise the Cowboys were kept out of the end zone, and it needed five Boniol field goals, the last from 35 yards, to secure victory. It will do little to cool the hear on Switzer. Dallas fans grew accustomed in the Jimmy Johnson

Dursion winners; † Clinched play-off berth

British basketball may be restructured

n a move that would create a stronger national team. The English, Scottish and Welsh associations are negotating a deal which would amalgamate them into one side in time for the 1997 European Championships. Delegates from the

Baskethall

league. They are not so keen on a representative from the other

Talking of Johnson, his chances of starting next season as the new head coach of the Miami Dolphins increased significantly as the present in-cumbent the Legendary Don Shula (as he is almost invariably described) watched his team lose to the Buffalo Bills. Thurman Thomas proved a familiar nemesis, rushing for 148 yards and notching a pair of TDs.

The game was level at 20-20

White picked off Dan Marino's pass to set up the winning field games we should win, but I can't," Marino said. "I made a

mistake on the interception. I

wish I had the pass back. Victory gave the Bills their sixth AFC East litle in eight years, and though the Dolphins can still make the play-offs their chances of making sub-

of the game thanks to the rush-shrewdest coaches in the in the fourth quarter when David For Shula only a Super Bowl ap-

pearance may save his job. The Los Angeles Raiders goal. I wish I could give you a reason why we continue to lose season vanish before their eyes. the 44-10 defeat in Seattle was their fifth in a row, and their higgest defeat in nine years.

Cruising in the opposite direction are the Detroit Lions. whose 44-0 spanking of the Jacksonville Jaguars was their sixth win in a row. It is a measure of their more wellstantial progress, given the rounded attacking approach number of away victories that that Barry Sanders was only rewould now involve, appear slim. quired to rush for 76 yards.

PACIFIC DIVISION

**Rugby League** 

**Rugby Union** 

### **KP** withdraw after summer of discontent

**Athletics** 

British athletics has lost the sponsor of its two higgest meetings, KP Foods, who have decided not to exercise an option to renew a two-year agreement worth around £2m.

KP were unhappy with the controversy surrounding the London Grand Prix at Crystal Palace and the AAA Championships in Birmingham this summer. However Tony Ward, the

British Athletic Federation's spokesman, said vesterday a deal with a replacement sponsor had been "signed and sealed". "The new sponsors will match what KP did," Ward said. These two are big money meetings and need a lot of promo-

tion, especially this season." Linford Christie, Colin Jackson and John Regis missed the Grand Prix this summer because of a pay dispute with the British Athletic Federation and the attendance was badly hit.

In Birmingham a week later Christie came under fire when he was allowed to run in the 100 metres final as a guest after failing to qualify; and Jackson upset officials after pulling out after one round of the 100m with a groin moscle injury, then winning a sprint hurdles race in Italy 24 hours later.

### **Graf's father stays in jail**

Steffi Graf's father failed vesterday with another attempt to get out of prison while public prosecutors investigate allegations that the family evaded millions of pounds in taxes. A judge in Mannheim ruled that Peter Graf should stay in prison in case he fled the country or interfered with the evidence during the investigation.

Graf, who has managed his daughter's finances since early in her career, was detained last August. He made the new request to be released at a hearing last Friday. Steffi Graf, whose lifetime

earnings of are thought to be more than 100m marks (£45m),

has already deposited DM20m marks to cover taxes investigators believe may have been evaded. Prosecutors have so far seen no need to arrest her. But they argued against the release of Peter Graf, saying he would not be in jail unless it were necessary. .

seemed confident after last week's hearing in Mannheim that Graf would be freed this week in time for Christmas. Claire Taylor, the 1993 national junior champion from Oxfordshire, is seeded second behind Julia Lutrova, of Russia, in the British Women's Tennis Association Christmas Tournament at Queen's Club, London. from 18-21 December.

### **Herbert signs for Sauber**

Johnny Herbert, the British Grand Prix winner, will race alongside Germany's Heinz-Harald Frentzen for the Fordpowered Sauber team in 1996.

year's Italian Grand Prix for Benetton, will have his first test with Sauber at the Le petitive in Formula One. I will Castellet track in southern

His lawyer, Steffen Ufer, had

### Motor racing

Herbert, who also won this France later this week.

said: "We have taken the decision after careful consideration. We feel he will be able to make a very positive contriin an International F3000 race bution to our team after his in 1988 left him with badlygood results this season and with smashed ankles.

### the experience of 80 grands prix

"We will start 1996 with a new car and a promising new engine. the Ford Zetec-R V10, and we are very happy to have a second strong driver in Johnny Herbert with Heinz-Harald Frentzen."

Herbert said: "They proved in 1995 they can be highly comtry my very hardest to help the team join the top ranks of Peter Sauber, the team chief, grand prix racing next season." Herbert's career has been marked by disappointments

### AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE EASTERN DIVISION CENTRAL DIVISION

NPL: Buffalo 23 Marm 20; Carolina 21 Al-lanta 17; Chrago 31 Tampa Bay 10, Caro-land 26 Charonata 10; Detro 44 Jacksonwile 0, Houston 23 NY Jets 6; Philadelphia 21 An-zona 20; Washington 35 St Lote 23; Dallas 21 NY Garus 20; San Diego 27 Inder-apo-la 24; Kansas City 20 Derwer 17; Seattle 44 Qalland 10;

CENTRAL DIVISION

SPORTING DIGEST

### TO DAY S. FIX FURES Football

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION Peterborough v Stockport (7.45). THIRD DIVISION Fulhem v Cardul 17.451 Hereford v Scumborge ....

PREMIER DIVISION

viotherwell v Rangers (8.0) THERD DIVISION East Stirling v Albron GM VALDONALL CONFERENCE: Nordanch : Tellord (7.45)
LEAGUE Premier Division: Manne v Accuration Staniey. League Cup third round: Gairsborough Tranty v Protest; Cuse third ey v Boston Utd. Presidents Cup first round: Aberion LR v Witton Albion, Raddiffe Boroudh v Snenymono.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Premier Division: durion Albion > Salisbury 17.451 Southern Division: Fieer > Newton: Graves. Dr. Southern Division: Fieer > Newton: Graves. Dr. Southern Rothwell > King's Lyrn. Second round replaye: Biston > Evesham; Trovbndge > Basnley.

Bacriey.

ICIS LEAGUE Premier Division: Hayes v Sf Abonc, Hendon v Hitchin. First Division: Leyton Permant v Thame (7.45). Taind Division: Windson v Kingson, Guardian Interance Cup third round: Aldeston v Borneran Wood: Bachagiothe v Mariaw. Carton Cup second round: Enfeto v Teacing Heyonige v Ustronge: Subor: Did v Abrigoon Town; Waton and Hersham: Angstonian 17.451. Carton Trophy second round: Banstead v Camberley. Canvey Island v Collier Ros: Wevenhoe v Leginton 17.45.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First Di-vision: Boote v Carheroe; IGdsgrove v Trat-tord; Mame Road v Permiti 17.45).

# PACIFIC DIVISION

**Equestrianism** 

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JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier DM-sion: Wistech v Soham; Wroshem v Diss HEREWARD UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE CUP Third round: Stewarts and Lloyds Corby v Bourne; Stotfold v Wootton. UNITET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First DI-LEAGUE OF WALES LEAGUE CUP First

FA YOUTH CUP Third round: Porismouth v PONTINS LEAGUE First Division: Everton v Sherkeld Wednesday (7.0). Second Division: Rotherham v Bradford (7.0). Telrid Division: Chasterfield v Bury (7.0). AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division: West Ham v Watford (7.0),

Rugby League

tiden 7.3 75 55 75 1655,435 escht, 289 N Fai-do 108: 74 75 72 68; E Be 193, 79 7.3 65 71 1638,52 escht, 289 P Sentor Aug. 77 70 71 72: P Armeer US; 75 74 66 72, 281 L tanzen US; 75 73 74 69 282 P Magtar US; 75 73 68 75 283 D Quael US; 72 77 70 72 286 C Morragomer (18) 75 72 77 75 75 770 62 78 177 75 67 77 301 1 Exwel Hapan; 80 71 72 78, 234 7 Day, US; 80 50 84 50 Withdraw A Fors-brated Swel

brand (See)
LEADNA 1995 MONEY-WINNERS: 1 C Prawn
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6 Norman Haus 11.266.49; 6 B Linger (GerFL 183.144: 6 5 Elwigton (Jas: FL 170.032;
SONY WORLD RAMENDES Leading positions:
1 G Norman Mus; 21.9705, 2 if Proc 20m; 15.26;
3 B Langer (Ger- 15.68; 4 E E): 53, 11.99; 6
C Montgomene (GB): 13.66; 6 C Pawn (US): 13.56;
7 N Faido (GB): 13.16 Selectate: 15 S Torrance
(GB): 8.28; 41 i Woosnam (GB): 5 31.

Hockey
FRIEDALY (Calro): Great Britain 5 Egypt Art 2.
RNDOOR CLIB CHAMPIONSHIP DRAW Preliminary rounds [13] and 14 January: Perdissons;
Worcester: Borterd Tyers, Carrince, Foncaster,
Frebrands, Hull and Stourport. Bant Britishand
RE East Brosseou. Leonalister. Old Loughtonairs.
Rectivedge and Britis. 51 Alberts and West Condon
Installe of IRE. Three from south confer to go fivough
to Finet: at Oystal Polace on 9 Feb.

ice hockey NHL: Vancouver 4 Ottawa 1: Philadelphia 6 Pritsburgh 5. Toronto 3 Anahem 2 (ct), Dol-las 4 San Jose 2: Chicago 3 Winnings 1. las 4 San Jose 2: Chicago 3 Winnings 1.

BRITISH LEAGUE Premiere Division: Cardiff 10
Million Neyros 5 Dumain 6 Streffield 6: Sough
6 Fife 10: Cardiff 15 Hamborade 5, Mithon Yomes
6 Fife 7: Newcastle 3 Notrorgham 8: First Division: Dumlines 1.2 Solvhulf 4: Couldford 8 Billingnum 2: Martsyfield 6 Peremboraugh 6: Passley 10
Chelmistord 3: Telford 5 Bischnell 5: Blackburn
7 Dreferstord 1: Dumlines 7 Passley 3. Guardirord
4 Bracknell 4, Munichester 18 Peterboraugh 1:
Medisey 2 Swindon 9, Munichfield 6 Tertord 10:
Solthull 15 Edlingham 6

EASTERN CONFERENCE NORTHEAST DIVISION W L T GF GAPTS

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TLANTIC DIVISION			-	-	
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hRadelphia21	8	4	123	80	4
Y Rangers20	10	5	124	99	4
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ampa Bay13 lew Jersey13	14	5	90	107	3
lew Jersey13	16	3	80	80	2
Y Islanders7	20	4		123	1
vestern Confere Entral Division	NCE				

en experimental new fournament in the New Year. The WRU Midweek Compe-tion has been designed to encourage clubs to play attacking and positive rug-by and that is reflected in a number of rule changes: six points will be awardand penalty kicks will only be allowed for acts of four play and offside. Clubs will be split into four pools of four teams with the winners of each pool progressing to a semi-final on 27 February. The competition will start on 9 January, when Pontypool host Cross keys and Abercynon meet Blaina. The final is set to take place on 12 March.

The Weish Rugby Union are to introduce

Sailing Britain, represented by the Royal Ocean Racing Club, finished last in a short 50 mile inshore race against teams com-penng for the Southern Cross Cup in Sydney, Australia. The Australian national team continues to lead from a regional mo consisting of three boats from Victona, with the local Middle Harbour Yacht Club in third place. Four more inshore races are due to be completed this week. and the series finishes with the Sydney to Hobert race starting on Boxing Day.

Table tennis ARDIFE TECHNIS
EUROPEAN WOMEN'S CLUB CUP OF CHAMPRONS (Lamobrzeg, Polls Cerch, Sorbo (Pols)
BFL Grove (Eng) Sungles quarter-finals (BFL
Grove names first); A Brot or to 150 (Eng)
1/4 37-21 23-17; A Holt of Long Na 21-18 2112; L Lomas or A Gerago (21-13) 21-15
Doublest Jones and Holt bt to and A Jonesey
21-17 6-21 21-14.

# Venables close to new contract

Football

The Football Association is finalising plans to extend Terry Venables' contract as England coach to 1999.

Venables had talks with the FA's chief executive. Graham Kelly, at this weekend's European Championship draw in Birmingham to discuss a proposal by the chairman, Sir Bert Millichip, to keep him at the helm until after the 1998 World Cup. They plan a further meeting in the next few days and that could complete the negotiations to secure Venables position, which has been the subject of

ry had an informal meeting with Graham in Birmingham and I understand that they will be talking again later this week," David Davies, the FA's public affairs executive, said.

Venables, eager to take up the challenge set in Paris last week when England were drawn against Italy, Poland, Georgia and Moldova in the World Cup qualifying campaign, wanted his future secured in advance of the Euro '96 finals. After England were pitched against Scotland, the Netherlands and Switzerland in Sunday's draw, he is confident he can conjure a speculation following the coach's to justify Millichip's faith. cial Receiver. Some of recent court appearance. But opposition from within the Thomas's colleagues share his

"It is entirely correct that Ter- 15-strong International Committee could prevent the quick approval of a deal negotiated on the initiative of the chairman, who will retire as Venables begins his extra three years. There was an undercurrent of discontent in Birmingham, with the committee determined to have their say and puzzled by the rush to sign him up before they have their next meeting, which is scheduled for the end of January.

Charlie Thomas, a veteran committee member, described Venables as "an embarrassment" after his latest court appearances, when he lost one suit brought by Jeff Fugler but survived a meeting with the Offi-

field activities and they certainly as "a conspiracy" to underbelieve the FA should wait until the Premier League inquiry into transfer dealings makes its expected report next month.

The extraneous payments made around Tottenham's signing of Teddy Sheringham from Nottingham Forest, which Venables confirmed in the Central London County Court last Thursday, are one issue. Venables also faces a move by the Department of Trade and Industry to disbar him as a company director, and has further litigation, including libel ac-

tions, coming up.
Millichip, who retires after next summer's championships, insists that nothing has emerged

mine the FA investigations that cleared him before his initial appointment.

"I am entirely happy with the way England are going. I think Terry is on the right lines and I don't want him going into the European Championship thinking he is going to get the sack, because he is not," he said. However, even this FA line is

losing its unity. "Would you give your manager a new, improved contract when all he has done is take you through the preliminaries?" said one influential official in Birmingham.

Noel White, the committee's chairman, is uneasy at making that commitment before Ven-

concern about Venables' off- from what Venables describes ables has proved himself in the field activities and they certainly as "a conspiracy" to under- heat of battle and several committee members made the point that his England record is hardly overwhelming. He has won only six out of 14 completed friendlies, though he has lost just one, to world champions Brazil.

His predecesor, Graham Taylor, did even better, winning 10 and losing just one of his first 14 games, and five of those games were competitive. "Of course the Internation-

ai Committee's views are taken into consideration and any decision taken obviously needs their approval," Davies said vesterday.

White holds the key. Mil-lichip and Kelly are convinced tichip and Kelly are convinced allocations for their two games at Villa Park against the Nether-

Liverpool director, the cummittee would avoid setting a precedent by rejecting a unanimous proposal presented by the FA chairman, chief executive and their own chairman.

Scotland are to receive fewer than 10,000 tickets for next June's Euro '96 game against England at Wembley, Euro '96 officials confirmed yesterday that the first England Scotland match for seven years is already a 76,000 sell-out. There is likely to be an increase of only a cou-ple of thousand, if any, on Scotland's original 7,000 alloca-tion for the match on 15 June.

Scotland may receive greater



Venables: Talks continue

lands on 10 June and Switzerland on 18 June, although tickets are selling fast at the Birmingham venue. Tickets have been on sale since October last year and with people knowing England were to play at Wembley it was inevitable that these games would prove more

# Merry-go-round in full swing

The managerial vacancies at due to the club if O'Neill ap-Leicester and Norwich City ap-peared no closer to being filled yesterday, while Luton Town's Terry Westley became the latest managerial casualty.

At Carrow Road there was of-ficial confirmation that O'Neill's assistant, Paul Franklin, will take charge of the Norwich side for tomorrow night's Coca-Cola Cup replay at Bolton.

But there was no comment from Filbert Street over reports that O'Neill could be about to at the club did appeal to him. move in. Mike Walker, the former Norwich and Everton manager, was interviewed by Leicester last week but he may

now be approached by Luton. O'Neill's resignation, following a dispute over lack of funds with the chairman, Robert Chase, brought an angry reaction from fans. Chase, for his part, reiterated that 43year-old O'Neill's resignation had not been accepted, mean-gauntlet of angry fans.

pointed in the summer, accepts

The Leicester chairman, Martin George, is away on business and a spokesman for the club said it was too soon to comment on speculation. But O'Neill has made no secret of the fact that he very nearly accepted the offer to join Leices-ter after Brian Little's departure last season and that the prospect of becoming manager

If O'Neili does end up at Fil-bert Street, Walker could be on his way to Kenilworth Road after Westley's troubled sixmonth tenure was officially ended by "mutual consent".

Westley, who succeeded David Pleat in July, has steered Luton to just four wins in 22 league games, with the Hatters plunging to the bottom of the First Division, and has run the

### Le Saux resigned to missing Euro '96

to admit that his chances of mitted that he has been left devplaying in next summer's Euro- astated by the news as he pean Championship finals were remote.

The England defender was carried off during Blackhurn's 1-0 victory over Middlesbrough at Ewood Park on Saturday. Yesterday, Le Saux's agent, Jon Holmes, confirmed that the player sustained a broken tibia, a dislocated ankle and a ruptured tendon in his right leg after landing awkwardly while making a challenge on Juninho of Middlesbrough.

Graeme Le Saux vesterday had Le Saux's sister, Jeanette, adrecuperates in the Highfield private hospital in Rochdale. After visiting him she said: "Obviously he's very upset and distraught about it hut he's just got to come to terms with it like everyone else."

It is the second time this season that Le Saux has been sidelined by a serious ankle problem - he missed eight games when he suffered a nasty injury in the Premiership encounter with Coventry in September.

sation package for the remaining had become the 15th managerial departure of the season, David Kohler, the Luton chairman,

said: "I feet very sorry for Terry. "I wanted him to do well but we've spent more than £2m on players and are bottom of the First Division. Something clear-ly is wrong and something had to be done before it was too late."

Westley's assistant, the former Ipswich manager Mick McGiven, was also shown the door by Kohler, who revealed be was looking to appoint a new man be-fore Saturday's game with Hud-dersfield. He refused to confirm or deny that 50-year-old Walker was in the frame but did say. "I want a man who has experience and can get us out of this difficult situation. We will certainly not be promoting from within.

"My phone has been ringing all the time with men wanting the job. Some of them are well known names, I shall be speaking to a couple of them today." Graham Kelly, chief executive of the Football Association, has launched an FA campaign to help English clubs in European competition. If the plan is approved, clubs will have four days clear of domestic fixtures before European matches and the option of a bye in the twoleg Coca-Cola Cup second round. The proposals, which will require FA Premier League and Football League approval have been made in response to complaints from club managers about shortage of time available for preparations before Euroan matches.

Aston Villa's Dwight Yorke could be out until the middle of next month after having an operation on his hroken nose.

# George soars to an even greater height



Reaching for the sky: Emma George, 21, of Australia, used a borrowed pole when she cleared 4.28 metres to break her own pole vault world Photograph: Tony Ashby/AP record by three centimetres at a meeting in Perth, Australia

### THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

Aquiline pirate was in-

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underwear (1-6)

DOWN

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Beatle's representative

Strength of mind executor

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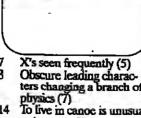
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13 In which one takes steps

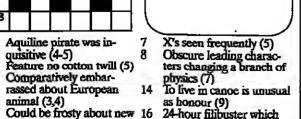
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Come to preacher for one 5 to be dismissed (5) 21 Joints of meat right out of 6 ovens (5) 23 Anti-Luddite? (9)



ing? (6.3) Criminally into triad? This could be handed down (9) Worry about King's sibling

name of staff (9) Nageing old woman is frigid (5) Mean type of island in sea off France? (5) Become liable for popular A doctor's hesitation seeing warning of danger? (5) Cutter has anchor that's awfully fine on the inside Something needed by type of dog (5) baby when sleeping? (5)



24-hour filibuster which some pupils find reward-

Perhaps greyhounds after race will need food (3,4)

weapon.

# **Edberg calls time on** Sweden's golden era

nounced yesterday, a month before his 30th birthday, represents more than the loss of a great player, it signifies the end of the golden age of Swedish tennis, which began with the rise of the phenomenal Bjorn Borg in the early 1970s.

The London-based Edberg who won the Wimbledon singles title in 1988 and 1990 - the year he became world No 1 - also achieved two victories at both the United States and Australian championships. He last tasted success when Sweden won the Davis Cup in Moscow last December. After a decade ranked in the top 10, Edberg has slipped to No 23. "I thought it was best to an-

nounce my decision now. Everyone keeps asking when I'm quitting. It will be in a year's time, whether I'm ranked second or 100 in the world," Edberg said. Edberg added that his last tournament would be the Stockholm Open in his native Sweden next November.

Edberg, who formed the third link in a chain of success with Borg and Mats Wilander, was a totally different type of player to the other two, decidedly unSwedish with his elegant serve-volley style. Whereas Borg and Wilander constructed points chiefly from the baseline, Edberg's net play has been one of the joys of the sport for the past 12 years. So, too, has his magnificent hackhand, and his knack of spinning the second serve, so that the hall would "kick" away from opponents, was another effective

In common with Borg and Wilander, Edberg had a sound temperament, but during his early years on the professional

John Roberts reports on the final

volley of a Grand Slam contender guage cost him a number of

mportant matches. His coach, Tony Pickard, from Nottingham, deservedly was given credit for coaxing the reserved Edberg to overcome "the droops" and lift his chin in adversity. His resilience was never more evident than during the 1992 United States Open.



Stefan Edberg: twice won the Wimbledon singles title

formance to win the title in 1991, dismantling Jim Courier in the final, 6-2, 6-4, 6-0, Edberg performed a breathtaking series of escapes in successfully delending the championship the following year.

Before defeating Pete Sampras in the 1992 final, he extricated himself from being a break down in the fifth set of three consecutive matches, against Richard Krajicek, Ivan Lendi and Michael Chang. The tour his downbeat body lan- semi-final against Chang lasted

It was Chang who denied Edberg the one major title missing from his collection, climaxing a prodigious performance at the 1989 French Open by defeating the Swede in the final, 6-2 in the fifth set. Chang, aged 17 and three months, emerged as the youngest male to win a Grand Slam singles title.

Edberg, who won two of his three duels with Boris Becker in Wimbledon finals, holds a unique record which began at the All England Club - he has participated in 50 consecutive Grand Slam tournaments.

In a sport frequently beset by absenteeism among leading players, Edberg did not miss any of the four major champ-ionships, from defeating Christophe Roger-Vasselin, of France, in the first round at Wimbledon in 1983, to losing to Andre Agassi, of the United States, in the third round of this year's US Open, when the Swede was unseeded for the first time in a decade.

When the one hundred per cent attendance record began, 12 years ago, Edberg not only made his debut in the main draws at Wimbledon, the US Open and the Australian Open, but simultaneously became the first player, male or female, to accomplish a junior Grand Slam.

The policeman's son from Vastervik also played a part in Sweden's four Davis Cup triumphs in the last II years, marking his debut in the 1984 final by partnering Anders Jar-ryd to a doubles win against the Americans Peter Fleming and John McEnroe

Moreover, Edberg's behavinur throughout his career has never been anything less than



Longines watches are available from leading independent jewellers

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